



AFGHANISTAN REPORT

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**CRISIS & CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM
THE INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES
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**CRISIS AND CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM (CCAT)
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1. The Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team comprises of leading academicians, strategists, researchers and policy analysts interested in the study of international relations. The members of this team meet periodically in groups; one team is devoted to the study of the Afghan crisis and conflict. In the light of carefully monitored information each group reviews current developments in its respective conflict area, and offers various policy options for consideration. While the Institute of Strategic Studies provides the forum, coordinates research and publishes the findings of the Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team, it does not necessarily share the views expressed by the team members whose participation in this group is in their individual capacity.

2. The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, collation, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all the parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Afghan, Soviet, and other Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Documentation Centre, Afghan Information Centre, the Afghan Islamic Press, and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are aware of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up in the Mujahideen, as present in regular armies.

— Editor

AFGHANISTAN REPORT: DECEMBER 1986

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NASEEM RIZVI**

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ACRONYMS

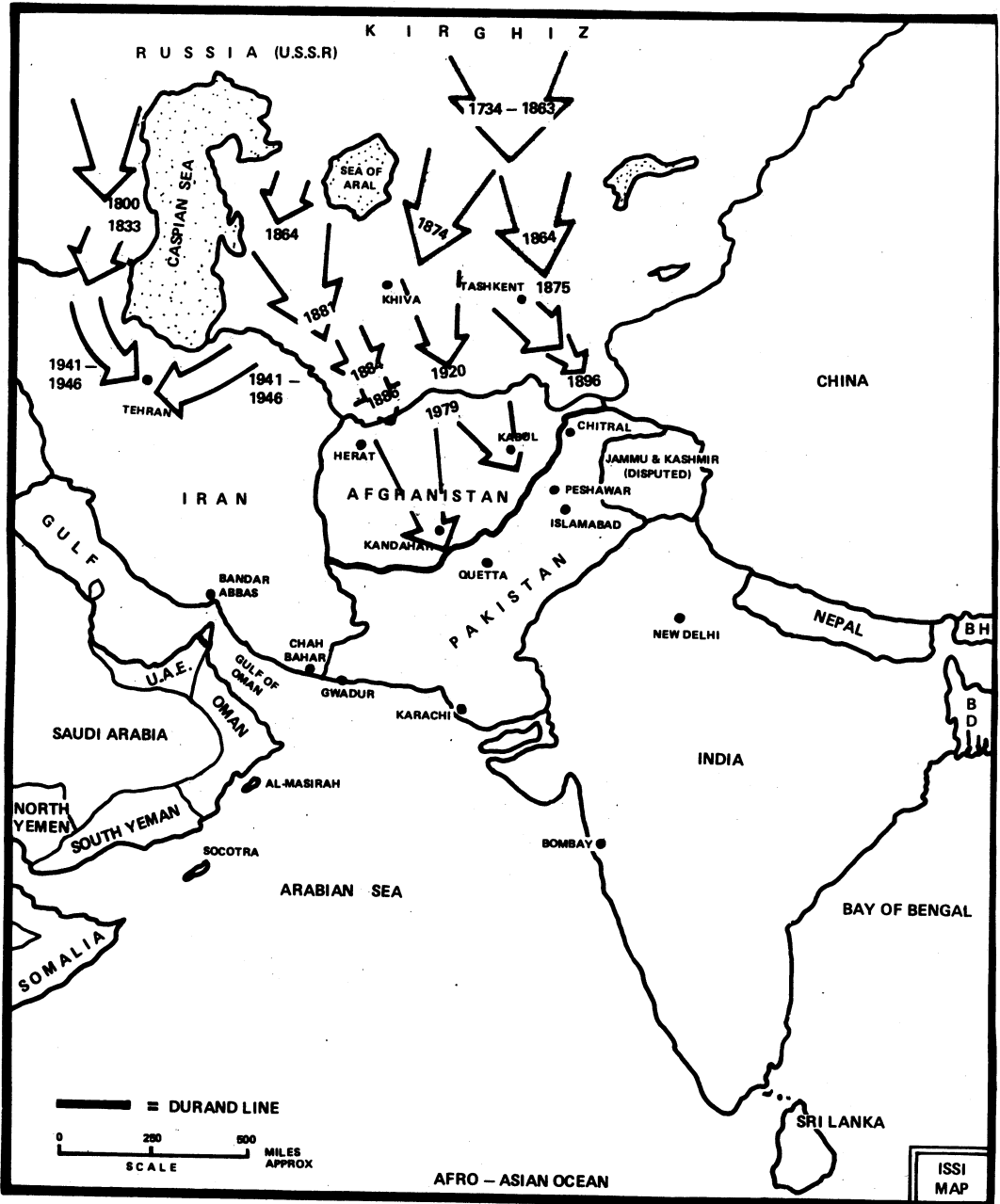
AAP	=	Agency Afghan Press (Mujahideen).
AAPSO	=	Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization.
AAWC	=	All Afghanistan's Women Council
ADBA	=	Agricultural Development Bank of Afghanistan.
ALA	=	Association of Lawyers of Afghanistan.
APC	=	Armoured Personnel Carrier.
CC	=	Central Committee.
CP	=	Communist Party.
DRA	=	Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.
DYOA	=	Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan.
HIS	=	Haqiqat-e-Inqilab-e-Saur ('The Truth of the Saur Revolution'), daily newspaper.
HMV	=	Heavy Military Vehicles.
IHT	=	International Herald Tribune.
IRC	=	International Red Cross.
KHAD	=	State Secret Service.
KNT	=	Kabul New Times.
LOSPA	=	Local Organs of State Power and Administration.
NFF	=	National Fatherland Front.
NVDP	=	Ningarhar Valley Development Project.
PDPA	=	Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan.
POA	=	Pioneers Organization of Afghanistan.
PSFO	=	Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization.
RC	=	Revolutionary Council.
SAFS	=	Soviet Afghan Friendship Society.
TUA	=	Trade Unions of Afghanistan.
UJA	=	Union of Journalists of Afghanistan.
UNESCO	=	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization.
UNGA	=	United Nations General Assembly.
VFA	=	Voice of Free Afghanistan.
VOA	=	Voice of America.
VOG	=	Voice of Germany.
VOIR	=	Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (reportedly based in Iran).
WDS	=	Western Diplomatic Sources.
WHO	=	World Health Organization.
YPO	=	Young Pioneer's Organization.
'Jehad'	=	To strive, struggle, resist, fight against, as an article of Faith. One of the main tenets of Islam.
'Mujahideen'	=	Those who take part in Jihad against oppression and aggression, as an article of faith.
'Jirga'	=	Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Loi Jirga'	=	National Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Afghanis'	=	Afghan Currency.

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THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



I.— THE FOURTH AFGHAN WAR

1 — SUMMARY PERSPECTIVE (see map Appendix 6)

In December 1986 Mujahideen sources reported 255 military engagements in 24 provinces of Afghanistan. Radio Kabul reported 34 Soviet-Kabul operations in 12 provinces. None of these sources carried any report from Badakhshan, Jozjan and Uruzgan.

The total of 255 engagements could be divided into:—

Mujahideen targets (mobile)	: 81
Mujahideen targets (immobile)	: 126
Soviet-Kabul (air and ground) operations	: 48

The highest number of military engagements were reported from Parwan, Ningarhar and Kabul provinces respectively. This would show concentration of conflict in and around Kabul followed by extensive clashes in Qandahar and Baghlan provinces.

This month the Mujahideen reportedly killed 1157 Kabul troops. The estimates based on Mujahideen sources also reported destruction of 13 aircraft alongwith an equal number of helicopters which total upto 26. The Mujahideen also claim having destroyed 61 tanks/APCs and about 50 security posts.

Month	Mujahideen Operations		Soviet-Kabul air & ground operations	Total Engage- ments
	Mobile	Immobile		
Dec 1984	40	72	49	161
Dec 1985	56	92	55	203
Dec 1986	81	126	48	255

The combat frequency of the war in Afghanistan would seem to be progressively increasing over the years, as per above chart.

The number of Mujahideen immobile targets (e.g. military posts, cantonments, bases, installations, administrative offices, etc), would show that Soviet-Kabul strongholds were being attacked at a higher level of frequency than ever before.

Mujahideen reports mention at least one instance in which the Afghan air force used chemical weapons in Ningarhar. In Parwan, the

The author wishes to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad, in the preparation of this part of the monthly report.

Mujahideen saw a new "type of shell which while approaching the target exploded into pieces and dropped vertically on men and material, suspended to a parachute."

Airborne Soviet-Kabul troops also used 'silencer fitted weapons' in surprise attacks in Kunar.

2 — MAJOR MILITARY ENGAGEMENTS

Parwan

Parwan witnessed 19 Mujahideen operations. Their main targets were security posts in Sofian, Laghmani, Tonchi, Bagram and Charikar areas. Radio Kabul also mentioned stepped up "counter-revolutionary activities" in these parts.

Almost every Mujahideen action sparked retaliatory air and ground attack by Soviet-Kabul forces who bombarded the villages of Charikar, Sadi Khel, Chenki, Kaka Khel, Ali Khel, Shinwazi and Qala-e-Buland. Mujahideen offered stiff resistance when Soviet-Kabul troops tried to enter Sofian.

Mujahideen belonging to Parwan province conducted a rocket attack on the Bagram air base, north of Kabul, and destroyed or damaged 4 aircraft, several vehicles and fuel tankers. In Parwan province also the Mujahideen shot down an aircraft on December 11.

Ningarhar

The pattern of conflict in Ningarhar showed continued Soviet-Kabul effort to clear up the area of Mujahideen. They set up a chain of security posts in Shalman, Kama Daka and Lalpura area to block Mujahideen movement along the border routes.

Afghan air force dropped bombs on Khewa, Kama, Maru and Haska Mena. Some of these bombs emitted a "black gas" which caused vomiting among the affected people.

The Mujahideen on their part mounted joint operations on Soviet-Kabul troops on Jalalabad airport and the regimental centre near Hadda. They also ambushed a contingent of "Soviets" in a narrow gorge at Tangi Mulayan. They downed a transport plane in Khewa and 3 helicopters which crashed on Khewa and Kabul-Jalalabad highway. Two other aircraft fell near Chagru after being hit by the Mujahideen.

3 — PROVINCEWISE SURVEY ANALYSIS

Provinces Bordering Pakistan

Nimruz (also bordering Iran)

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen raid a school in Khas Rud sub-division where Khalq and Parcham parties were holding a secret meeting, December 1. Sixteen government supporters were captured and handed over to local Revolutionary Court for trial.

Hilmand

VOIR: Mujahideen kill or wound six Soviet-Kabul troops in attacks on security posts in Naz-e-Ali area (December 2).*

VOA: Mujahideen claim they killed forty enemy troops, including 6 Soviets, during an attack on a Soviet-Kabul cantonment. In a week's fighting beginning November 11, six armoured vehicles, a rocket launcher and one jeep were also destroyed (December 9).

Radio Kabul: The Security Forces wiped out a number of counter-revolutionaries in Toran area. According to a Bakhtar report the security forces eliminated enemies in 8 villages and seized a huge quantity of arms and ammunition.

Qandahar

Mujahideen sources: 27 November, Soviet-Kabul troops surround Khak-Rez sub-division and start searching houses. They detain 20 young men for compulsory army duty. Mujahideen attack the intruders with rocket launchers and other arms as a result of which a tank and two armoured vehicles were destroyed. Fourteen Soviet-Kabul troops were killed. Mujahideen lost 8 killed. Another 24 were injured. The invading forces retreated.

1 December, a Soviet-Kabul forces moving to Khak-Rez district lose 8 tanks in a mine-field laid by Mujahideen. 3 December, Mujahideen waylay a military convoy in Sufi Dasht, 4 km north of Qandahar. Soviet-Kabul forces lose a tank, a heavy gun and two vehicles. 5 December, Mujahideen ambush a Soviet convoy coming towards Qandahar from Herat near Dorahi Shah Agha, 8 km west of Qandahar. Sixteen Soviet-Kabul APCs and trucks destroyed. Eight Mujahideen killed. 8 December, eight Soviet aircraft attack civilian areas of Qandahar city, killing about 100 and injuring 200 civilians. 12 December, a Soviet-Kabul forces ambushed a Mujahideen supply convoy near Kadul in

*The dates given in parenthesis are the actual broadcasts.

Arghistan. Five Mujahideen vehicles carrying arms and ammunition are destroyed. 150 Mujahideen killed. 13 December, Soviet-Kabul troops strengthen their siege of Qandahar city. They take up positions around Qandahar and check civilians entering the city. 13 December, Mujahideen hit and destroy a military fighter as it was landing at the Qandahar air base.

(Soviet jet fighters bombarded Charsu Bazar and Herat Darwazi districts of Qandahar city, December 8, killing 76 civilians and injuring another about 200. Many houses and shops were destroyed. Fierce fighting had raged in Qandahar since late October for the control of the city. Soviet-Kabul forces had laid a siege of the city in an attempt to cut off its communications with other parts of the country. The Mujahideen were strong in the suburbs and surrounding districts. The Soviet-Kabul authorities had their strongholds and cantonments in the city but, their authority was throughout disputed by Mujahideen within the city itself.

On December 9, the day following aerial bombardment on the civilian areas of Qandahar city, the citizens of Qandahar held public demonstrations against the Soviet-Kabul authorities whose aircraft had attacked them. The shopkeepers closed business: the city was paralyzed by a complete strike.

Bombardment of the civilian areas of Qandahar was described as an indication of desperation on the part of Soviet-Kabul commanders and their resentment against the people of Qandahar who had throughout the 7 years of resistance sided with the freedom fighters.

Earlier in October and November Soviet-Kabul forces had launched powerful coordinated attacks on Mujahideen positions in Dand, Panjwae and Arghandab districts. Three of these recent attacks took place in the last week of November. Several tanks and other armoured vehicles had been destroyed in the fighting).

VOIR: Afghan Mujahideen launched attacks on Qandahar airport on December 14. Three MiG aircraft, two APCs, a jeep and an ammunition depot were destroyed. An aircraft repair workshop and a number of buildings were damaged. Forty-one Soviet and Kabul soldiers, including officers, were killed. Mujahideen used rockets in the attack (December 25). Afghan Mujahideen in an attack destroyed 7 military installations of Soviet-Kabul troops in the west of Qandahar city. In another attack 3 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed in Waliyan area. Soviet-Kabul troops were subjected to rocket and mortar attacks in Qala-e-Nau area earlier this month. The Soviet-Kabul troops were travelling in armoured vehicles. The Soviet-Kabul forces suffered 10 casualties. An injured

Afghan soldier joined the Mujahideen (December 29, 1986).

Radio Tehran: Despite the siege clamped on Qandahar city, fighting is continuing in the city and its suburbs (December 9, 1986). War planes of the Kabul regime attacked Mujahideen positions close to Pakistan border and dropped 17 napalm bombs (December 13). More than 400 Afghan government troops joined the ranks of the Afghan Mujahideen in the recent past in Arghandab area. Fierce fighting continues between Afghan Mujahideen and Soviet-Kabul troops in various parts of Qandahar province (December 15). Three Soviet aircraft of the Afghan air force were destroyed by Mujahideen in an attack on Qandahar airport (December 30).

Radio Riyadh: About 300 Soviet-Kabul troops have been killed in fighting with Mujahideen in Qandahar province. To reinforce the garrison thousands of Soviet-Kabul troops have been rushed to Qandahar province. It is worth mentioning that Soviet-Kabul aircraft bombed Qandahar some time back "due to a mistake" causing at least a hundred deaths. The offices of the Afghan Communist Party and the Secret Police Headquarters also suffered destruction in Qandahar (December 23).

BBC: Reports reaching Pakistan say Soviet-Afghan aircraft, have bombed the city of Qandahar in South Afghanistan apparently by mistake. The city is controlled by the government. Some reports say that hundreds of people including Afghan and Soviet soldiers were killed or wounded in the incident which is said to have taken place on 8th December. Reports of the attack came from eye-witnesses who have since arrived in Pakistan. They speak of bodies being removed from the rubble for several days afterwards. According to some reports the city authorities offered medical treatment to the wounded and made announcements that the bombing had been an error.

A BBC correspondent in Pakistan says that a mistake is the most likely explanation. Aircraft are said to have carried out raids on last Monday against guerillas just outside Qandahar. The correspondent said that the aircraft apparently overshot their targets and bombed the city itself. Hundreds of people have been killed or wounded in the incident, many of them in Chasou area near Herat Gate on the western edge of the city. Eight Soviet soldiers died when their post was hit. Bombs hit the centre of Qandahar city, the Shaheedan Chowk when the market was busy, children were in schools and the offices were open during the day. A big garage was destroyed and the television station was badly damaged (December 13).

As the Afghan leader Dr. Najibullah was returning home from Moscow via Tashkent persistent reports were reaching Pakistan of an

air attack on Qandahar. Aircraft apparently either Soviet or Afghan attacked and bombed heavily populated areas. People are talking that two to three or four to five hundred people were killed and injured. But, quite how it had happened that is not sure. Some accounts say about a couple of aircraft came over and perhaps missing guerilla targets hit the city. It is said that it was a deliberate bombing raid by waves of jets.

This part of Qandahar is very much under government control. It is not controlled by the Mujahideen as some parts of the city are. But there is a lot of factional fighting and certain guerillas believe that it was a retaliatory attack rather than a mistake.

The fact is Qandahar has come under very serious attacks several times this year. There have been three major operations against it. And since the beginning of November, there have been three pushes in the area immediately around Qandahar city.

This is almost part of Dr. Najibullah's twin-track policy since he has been conducting the war against the Mujahideen very fiercely (December 13).

VOA: Afghan resistance fighters say Soviet-led forces have lifted their month long siege of a Mujahideen stronghold in Southern Afghanistan. Rebel commanders say Soviet and Afghan government troops began withdrawing on November 27 from Panjwai, west of Qandahar. Earlier reports said casualties were high in fighting on both sides and among civilians in nearby villages (December 1).

In Southern Afghanistan, Mujahideen have claimed that they are in a better position after the failure of government troops attack in suburbs of historical city of Qandahar ... The government had to call in more troops from other provinces for launching three attacks on the second of November. The big operation, the third during this year, was aimed at clearing a 40 km portion of Qandahar-Herat highway, closed by Afghan Mujahideen with home-made mines. However, Soviet-Afghan forces could not achieve the purpose.

In a letter received in Peshawar by a Mujahideen commander, a captain in the Afghan army writes that 309 soldiers of the enemy were killed upto the 17th of November, including some officers and a Soviet advisor. He said that during the same period 32 Mujahideen were killed and 40 injured. He added that more people might have been killed during the period from the 17th of November to 23rd of November, when withdrawal of the troops started from there.

According to another report Soviet and Afghan forces launched a major new drive against Mujahideen forces in the Mahalajat area just off Qandahar, in an apparent bid to prevent attacks on the airport and



other nearby installations. Resistance sources said the regime's armoured forces have tried twice in recent days without success to penetrate Mujahideen defences at Mahalajat and now have resorted to heavy aerial and artillery bombardment of the area. But the Mujahideen reportedly are well dug-in in a series of trenches and underground tunnels (December 4).

Mujahideen say that most of the business centres in the second largest city of Qandahar, remained closed in protest against Soviet aerial attack of the city. According to a report more than 70 people, including Afghan civilian and Soviet soldiers, were killed (December 13). Reports says that fierce fighting is going on in and around the southern city of Qandahar. Mujahideen have turned down an offer of interim truce by the government troops (December 14). Afghan Mujahideen say that Soviet-led government troops after facing failure in pushing back Mujahideen near Qandahar city have retreated ... they returned to their base at Qandahar airport (December 21). Western diplomatic sources report that Soviet aircraft attacked Qandahar city on December 8 (December 31, 1986).

Radio Kabul: The Afghan security forces attacked bases of counter-revolutionaries in Dahman Ulswali of Qandahar province as a result of which a number of criminals were wiped out or captured. A huge quantity of arms and ammunition was also seized from the criminals (December 8).

Zabul

Mujahideen sources: 18 November, Mujahideen conduct a rocket-missile attack at Shah Joi town on Kabul-Qandahar highway in Zabul province hitting some government buildings. Twenty-nine Soviet-Kabul troops killed. 25 November, Mujahideen attack a Soviet-Kabul forces moving from Ghazni to Qalat. Eight tanks and six trucks destroyed. An un-ascertained number of Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and wounded. Mujahideen casualties were put at 27 killed.

VOIR: Mujahideen attacked Soviet-Kabul troops in village Sher Ali Khan, Shar-e-Safa Ulaswali, 24 November.

Ghazni

Mujahideen sources: 22 November, Mujahideen attacked a Soviet-Kabul forces moving towards Mujahideen strongholds in Maqar subdivision. A tank destroyed. Three Mujahideen were killed as a result of aerial bombardment. 27 November, Mujahideen waylaid a Soviet-Kabul convoy damaging 13 vehicles on the Kabul-Qandahar highway (2 December 1986).

An armed clash reported from the Ghazni garrison between the supporters of Babrak Karmal and Najibullah. Mujahideen shot down a helicopter in Jaghuri sub-division, 19 December, while overflying Mujahideen positions. The aircraft was hit by a missile.

Paktika

Mujahideen sources: 9 November, Mujahideen raided the Waza Khwa garrison. November 22, 5 Mujahideen got killed and 15 wounded when Soviet-Kabul troops ambushed them. 24 November, heavy losses inflicted on Soviet-Kabul forces when they attack Mujahideen centre near Urgoon cantonment. Invaders lose two tanks and two other heavy vehicles. Three government soldiers join Mujahideen. The attack was repulsed. 5 December, Thirteen Soviet-Kabul troops killed when Mujahideen intercept a government mobile force near Khaikot cantonment. 8 December, Mujahideen attack a security post near Waza Khwa. A number of Kabul troops killed. A tank blasted by rocket fire in Itwaz town.

Paktiya

Mujahideen sources: A Soviet-Kabul force supported by a large number of tanks and APCs moved out from Khost cantonment on 22 November to block the supply route of Mujahideen in Kando-awar area. They established posts in Sangi, Mona Kandaw, Wazir gul Kotki and Badshah Gul Kotki. Soviet-Kabul troops also established posts near Dargai.

24 November, Mujahideen make rocket attacks on Soviet-Kabul posts in Dargai area forcing them to retreat to Khost. 25 November, thirty Soviet-Kabul troops killed or injured in a Mujahideen attack near Ghlang. Mujahideen suffered two killed. 26 November, Mujahideen fire rockets on Khost aerodrome. 28 November, Mujahideen down a MiG bombarding villages near Khost.

7 December, Mujahideen shell Zazi garrison with heavy weapons. On 8 December, a force of Mujahideen launched a coordinated attack on newly established security posts in the area of Tanni. The Mujahideen who used ground-to-ground rockets, mortars, Dschks and Zigau-yaks destroyed three posts, that is, the posts of Shinkai, Aitman and Wazir Gul. They seized a large number of both light and heavy weapons. They killed or injured 100 troops and captured 50 others.

On December 18, Mujahideen attacked Wazir Gul Kotki post with BM-12 as a result of which 2 APCs and two pieces of 122 mm guns were destroyed and 15 soldiers killed. The position was captured on December 19.

The post in Manu Kandau near Jawara base camp was attacked and destroyed on the following day. Similarly Soviet-Kabul posts in Sinkai were destroyed. Mujahideen captured a large quantity of arms, ammunition and eatables from the captured posts.

VOIR: Mujahideen in their operations against the Soviet-Kabul troops captured four military bases of Communist troops in Paktiya province. They killed 24 troops and captured 45 others, 3 days back (December 31, 1986).

BBC: Guerillas in Afghanistan have regained control of one of the main supply routes after overrunning three Afghan army posts near Khost. Anti-government guerillas launched an attack on three Afghan army posts in Paktiya province a week ago. The posts, about 15 miles southwest of Khost, were established by the Afghan army a month ago and were intended to consolidate its control over an important guerilla supply route. It was stated that the area was recaptured by the guerillas on 20 December after a week of fighting. Six guerillas were killed and 35 Afghan soldiers including 10 officers also killed. Fighting is also reported to be going on around an Afghan army camp near Khost and the guerillas claim they have destroyed a number of armoured vehicles (December 22, 1986).

VOG: A group of 47 army defectors from Afghanistan's eastern Paktiya province have arrived in Peshawar. Their arrival comes two weeks after fleeing Khost which is an embattled Afghan government garrison near the Pakistani border. Many of the soldiers brought their weapons with them (December 24). Another report says the resistance forces shot down a Soviet helicopter in Paktiya. They killed 12 Soviet soldiers in an operation in the same area (December 24).

Radio Beijing: Fifty-one Afghan troops sent to Paktiya province have joined the ranks of resistance forces. Correspondents met the troops on 3 December near Peshawar. One of them said that the majority of Afghan troops do not want to fight against their Muslim brothers (December 5).

Ningarhar

Mujahideen sources: Soviet-Kabul troops continued their efforts during November-December to wipe out Mujahideen strong points in Ningarhar. Both the government and Mujahideen sources reported fierce fighting in the area. 19 November, Mujahideen shot down Soviet-Kabul helicopter near Khewa. 22 November, Mujahideen shot down two M.I. gunship helicopters over Jalalabad-Kabul highway. Mujahideen destroy four tanks/APCs in Darunta. Twenty-two soldiers were killed.

On 27 November Mujahideen conducted a joint operation (of

various guerilla groups) against the invading troops. In these operations Mujahideen used missiles and rockets. Both sides suffered heavy losses. 28 November, Mujahideen fire rockets on Soviet-Kabul positions in Loya Daka and Mamandara. 29 November, Mujahideen shell targets in Jalalabad city with ground-to-ground rockets. Some rockets hit Jalalabad airport. 30 November, a transport aircraft shot down in Khewa.

2 December, Mujahideen search vehicles on Jalalabad-Torkham highway and capture two KHAD agents. Six Soviet-Kabul jets bombard an area between Kama and Khewa. 4 December, Soviet-Kabul forces shell Mujahideen positions with heavy guns and rockets in the area between Torkham and Guruku. Some shells fall on Pakistani side of the border. 11 December, Mujahideen shell Rig Shamad Khan and 81st Regimental centre near Hadda. On 14 December a large Soviet-Kabul forces composed of "hundreds of tanks and APCs" and protected by jet fighters and helicopter gunships attacked Mujahideen positions in Haska Mena district. A Soviet-Kabul force attacked Mujahideen positions in Deh Bala district between December 12 and 17. A Soviet-Kabul force attacked and damaged a Mujahideen base at Kats. Seven Mujahideen were killed and 10 others injured. In other areas, Soviet-Kabul forces faced strong resistance. As a result they lost seven tanks/APCs. Mujahideen cut off an enemy group in a gorge at Tangi Mulayan and killed or injured a number of Russians. Two helicopter gunships crashed near the battlefield in the vicinity of Chagharu after being hit by the Mujahideen.

On 18 December, a Soviet aircraft used a "black gas" on the villages of Haska Mena. The gas turned the "day into night". It spread a "bad smell" and many people started vomiting. On the same day, 18 December, Soviet aircraft bombarded Mujahideen positions in Maru in Nazian. Soviet-Kabul forces set up several new posts in the area of Daka and sub-district of Lalpura. They were trying to seal the Mujahideen routes passing through Shalman, Kama Daka and Lalpura. Mujahideen experienced difficulties in their movement on these routes, but, they still have other alternative routes.

VOA: An Afghan guerilla group says it has defeated an offensive by Soviet-backed government forces in southeast Afghanistan. A rebel news agency says the government task force which included about 500 vehicles suffered heavy losses as it moved towards a guerilla base last week in Ningarhar. The report put the Soviet-Kabul losses at 150 dead with 27 armoured vehicles put out of order. They also claim that an aircraft and two helicopters were destroyed in a rebel attack on Jalalabad airport (December 28, 1986).

Radio Kabul: Another counter-revolutionary band in Deh Bala area of Ningarhar has been eliminated. Bakhtar report says that the

armed forces captured various types of weapons during the operation and 35 depots of arms, ration and clothing and 36 hideouts were destroyed (December 19). The armed forces in the course of successful operations wiped out a large number of suboteurs in the outskirts of Pacheer and Agam Alaqadaris of Ningarhar province and their hideouts were destroyed. Bakhtar correspondent has reported that about 1200 ground-to-ground missiles, one thousand mines, three mortar guns and one 23 mm gun, were seized by the armed forces (December 27).

Radio Moscow: Afghan army units have with the support from the population destroyed the counter-revolutionary strongholds in the eastern province of Ningarhar ... Big quantities of western-made arms were captured including artillery shells, anti-tank mines, anti-aircraft guns and missiles (December 24).

Kunar

Mujahideen sources: 8 December, Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul security post in Rooki, in Chouki district. 9 December, Mujahideen attack Chouki district headquarters with BM-12. Mujahideen carry out a joint operation on Soviet-Kabul post in Shamkar in Khas Kunar district. Post destroyed: 8 Soviet-Kabul soldiers killed. Sixteen weapons captured. 14 December, Mujahideen attack security post of Surch (Kuz Kunar) with rockets. Five militiamen were killed and three injured. Soviet-Kabul helicopters bombard Mujahideen positions in Surch and forced them to retreat. On December 28 and 29 Mujahideen fired rockets on the security posts in and around Barikot cantonment. Two Soviet-Kabul positions were overrun and a number of soldiers killed. Some government soldiers joined Mujahideen.

(Mujahideen said that since the beginning of the Jihad, Barikot was under siege of the Mujahideen who had blocked the road between Asmar and Barikot. Soviet-Kabul sent supplies to its about 1,000 soldiers in the cantonment by air. In 1985 a strong Soviet-Kabul column was able to reach Barikot by land route. Barikot cantonment is once again under Mujahideen siege. About the same time (30-31 December) a Soviet-Kabul unit attacked a Mujahideen 'base' in the area of Krer in Sarkani district. Thirteen Mujahideen were killed and 18 injured).

Radio Kabul: Counter-revolutionary bands have once again disturbed the peaceful life of the people of Asadabad, Naring and Choki areas of Kunar province by firing surface-to-surface rockets. They martyred our seven countrymen and wounded 25 others (December 4, 1986).

Province Bordering Soviet Union

Badakhshan (also bordering Pakistan)

Nil report from all sources.

Takhar

Mujahideen sources: 22 October, Soviet-Kabul forces launch an operation against Mujahideen positions in 'central' Takhar. 23 October, Mujahideen attack a Soviet-Kabul convoy moving out from Farkhar for Kunduz. Eight vehicles destroyed and some weapons captured. 27 October, Mujahideen attack security post of Akbar Khan. 30 October, Soviet-Kabul forces attack Mujahideen controlled area in Ahandara. Twenty-five houses were destroyed and 30 civilians killed. Soviet-Kabul forces left the area on November 3. 11 November, Mujahideen attack a security post in Aaq Masjid area. Ten Soviet-Kabul soldiers killed.

VOIR: Afghan freedom fighters launched a major offensive with heavy guns, mortar guns and rockets against Soviet-Afghan troops in Shakardara area in Takhar province a few days ago (December 11).

Mujahideen have burnt three military posts of the communist troops in Takhar Woleswali. Ten guards of the posts were killed in these attacks while the Mujahideen commandant Azizullah was martyred and several other Mujahideen were injured (December 2).

Kunduz

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen attacked a militia post in Aliabad. Three militiamen were killed. Mujahideen also attacked a Soviet convoy in Angorabagh area of Kunduz city. It was stated that the Soviets were laying an electric power line between Soviet Tajikistan and Kunduz city in order to supply electricity to the cantonment and other places where the Soviets and ruling party cadres generally live. So far electric poles have been laid over a stretch of 16 to 20 miles. It is believed that this line would feed Sher Khan Bandar, Imam Sahib sub-divisional headquarters, Kunduz city, Kunduz airport and Dasht-e-Abdan, Soviet army camp. Currently, Kunduz city is supplied electricity from Pul-e-Khumri (Baghlan province).

Baghlan

Mujahideen sources: 6 November, Mujahideen attack a convoy moving along the Salang highway in Kanjan area. Eight tanks/APCs and 30 other vehicles destroyed. 17 November, Mujahideen eliminate two fortified toll-tax posts along the Salang highway. Traffic remained suspended on the highway for several days. 20 November, Mujahideen

attack a Soviet-Kabul battalion centre in Nahrin. Their centre was destroyed. Sixty soldiers were captured during the raid. On the Mujahideen side commander of the attacking contingent, Mir Ahmed was also killed. 22 November, Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul posts at Qasan, Arzanghan, Saiad, Dehsal, Garan, Qara Surab, Samandan, Abamak and Ghuraj and a militia brigade in Andarab district. A large number of Soviet-Kabul troops were killed. Many others joined the Mujahideen. Mujahideen captured a quantity of weapons. 26 November, Soviet-Kabul forces face stiff resistance when they attempted to recapture Pul-e-Sar in Pashaii.

VOIR: Mujahideen succeeded in recapturing a part of Asadarabad in Baghlan province and launched attack on 13 military post of Kabul regime in that area. Another report said that Mujahideen launched attack on a military post as a result of which 20 Soviet-Afghan troops were made captive (December 5).

Radio Tehran: Communist troops failed to occupy position of Mujahideen in a pass situated in Baghlan province. Three tanks and vehicles were destroyed and a number of communist were killed (December 5).

VOA: Mujahideen say they halted a Soviet-led offensive in the Pashaki valley of Baghlan province. They had aimed at regaining control of the valley on 26 November, but retreated in the face of stiff resistance (December 4).

Radio Kabul: A group of 'rebels' have been crushed and a number of arms seized from them.

Samangan

Mujahideen sources: On December 18 Mujahideen launched an attack on Sayad post in Khulm, killing many Soviet-Afghan troops. In yet another attack on the same day near Chashma-e-Hayat post the residence of some Soviets was destroyed and all Russian residents were killed.

Balkh

Mujahideen sources: 15 November, Mujahideen attack a security post at Aya-ud-Din and capture nine soldiers including an officer, a mortar, five rocket launchers, three machine guns and 18 klashnikov rifles. 16 November, Mujahideen attack security posts in Chamtal subdivision. Two security posts destroyed.

BBC: Guerrillas attack a Soviet convoy coming from Katar. It is said that the number of casualties in the fighting was not large: yet, it revealed that fighting is continuing in the northern provinces close to

the Soviet border. The offensive was launched on Soviet troops in Almar city, the biggest military base of Afghan forces in that area. The Soviet troops were coming from Kartar to strengthen the government bases in northern Faryab. Guerillas have claimed that 12 Soviet-Afghan soldiers were killed and several armoured vehicles were destroyed in the attack. Four guerillas also lost their lives.

A number of people who migrated to Baluchistan recently, belong to the northern provinces of Afghanistan. The refugees say that as a result of heavy bombardment in the summer, thousands of people were compelled to leave their homes (December 1).

Radio Kabul: Another 40 Afghans have returned home from Iran. Bakhtar News Agency reports that these people had fled the country due to the activities of counter-revolutionary elements in Balkh province (December 8). 12 'rebels' were captured and a number of them were killed in successful operations of Kabul forces in Shengal, Dewari and Shurtapeh villages (December 16).

Jozjan

BBC: In Soviet-Afghan operations carried out in Sangsarra area of Jozjan province villages and suburban areas were bombarded. Officials of the United Nations' Commission for Refugees have confirmed that three to six thousand refugees have taken shelter in Baluchistan during the last six weeks. They say that most of the refugees are Pukhtoons. These officials believe that there does exist a rift among various minorities in the northern areas of Afghanistan. Moreover, the prices of essential commodities have risen in Balkh and Faryab provinces (December 1, 1986).

Radio Kabul: Twenty families who had left the country under "the influence of propaganda of anti-revolution elements" have returned to their homes in Jozjan province. Bakhtar News Agency says that the families consist of 110 people (December 2).

Faryab

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen killed 15 soldiers when a Soviet force was proceeding to Maimana headquarters of Faryab province from Shebergan (headquarters of Jozjan province) in early November. Three Mujahideen were also killed. Later the Soviets bombarded the area.

Thirty civilians were killed and many others were injured in the bombardment. Mujahideen ambushed a Soviet convoy near Pushtoon Kot town on 22 November. The convoy was forced to retreat after a battle lasting three hours. Mujahideen seized a heavy gun, four army

vehicles and a quantity of arms and ammunition. On 28 November, Mujahideen destroyed three tanks, one oil carrier and another vehicle in an attack on a Soviet convoy in Shirin Tagab.

VOIR: After month-long fighting the Mujahideen liberated the Almas area of Faryab province on 14 of December. The Mujahideen killed 25 communist troops and injured 200 others and seized a huge quantity of weapons. Thirty Afghan government soldiers also surrendered to the Mujahideen. Later helicopters of the communist regime bombarded the area and martyred 30 civilians (December 30).

BBC: Afghan Islamic press has reported that Mujahideen occupied a town on 17th of December in northern Afghanistan. Quoting eye-witnesses the report says that 50 Afghan government troops were killed and 200 captured in two weeks siege of Tewar town in Faryab province (December 30).

Badghis

Mujahideen sources: On October 28, Mujahideen attacked Soviet-Kabul posts in Sabz Kotal and Khawaja Postan areas. Eight government troops were killed. One Mujahid also killed.

VOIR: Mujahideen launched an attack on Soviet-Afghan troops in Badghis province as a result of which two Soviet APCs and a jeep was destroyed (December 29).

Provinces Bordering Iran

Herat (also bordering Soviet Union)

Mujahideen sources: 15 November, Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul post around Herat city and inflict heavy losses on them. 19 November, Soviet-Kabul forces attack Mujahideen positions west of Herat city. 20 November, Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul posts of the security belts west of Herat city, 4 security posts and 2 APCs were destroyed and 30 soldiers killed or wounded. 20 November, Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul posts in the 2nd security posts and two APCs were destroyed. 30 soldiers killed or wounded. Soviet-Kabul forces bombarded Mujahideen positions. 27 November, Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul base in Pashtoon Zarghoon district. 28 November, Mujahideen attack a military convoy moving from Shindand to Herat. Eighteen Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and 6 armoured vehicles and trucks were destroyed.

While these exchanges were taking place between the Mujahideen and Soviet-Kabul forces, MiG fighters and helicopters appeared on the scene and strafed and shelled the Mujahideen, ten of them were killed.

On 15 December, Soviet-Kabul forces, comprising hundreds of vehicles including tanks and APCs surrounded Mujahideen positions in the area between Dasht-e-Maulana Jami and Ghulam Nabi Khan. They also laid a siege between the Harirud river and Herat city. Fierce fighting took place on that day (and perhaps night too): but losses could not be ascertained.

VOIR: Communist troops besieged several villages in Shindand Ulaswali early this month. However, the Mujahideen put up stiff resistance and 30 communist troops were killed and many others injured. Mujahideen destroyed 15 military posts of the Soviet-Afghan troops in the suburbs of Herat city in mid-November. Another report says that a number of Soviet tanks and APCs were destroyed while a huge quantity of arms was also captured by the Mujahideen. About 100 Soviet-Afghan troops were killed (December 11).

BBC: Fighting is still continuing in Afghanistan despite indications of progress towards finding a political solution of the Afghanistan problem. A renowned guerilla leader says that government troops have launched a military operation in the western part of Herat city. Nearly 8,000 troops are taking part in the operation. The guerilla leader Ismail Khan adds that such an operation during winter season was witnessed for the first time. He said that guerillas were experiencing acute shortage of food as well as of warm clothing. During the operations Mujahideen have suffered heavy losses of life, but exact details could not be known (December 31).

VOA: Afghan government troops are reportedly trying to push out Afghan Mujahideen from the western city of Herat. In the fierce fighting both sides are suffering heavy loss of life. Mujahideen commander has said that after having been defeated in many battles during the last three months, Soviet-backed government troops have again besieged Herat city. The commander said that except the Provincial Governor's residence, airport and military barracks, the city is under Mujahideen's occupation. The commander said that government troops recently established many posts in the west of the city in order to cut off all links of Mujahideen with the Iranian border (December 28).

Radio Beijing: The Afghan Press Agency reports that Afghan resistance forces killed 18 Soviet and Kabul soldiers and destroyed 6 armoured vehicles and trucks in recent attacks in Herat province (December 15).

Radio Kabul: Security forces seized a large number of weapons in an operation in Keshk district.

Radio Moscow: The residents of the Afghan city of Herat have in collaboration with the security forces set up a security belt around the

city to defend it against terrorist attacks from Pakistan. The streets are being patrolled by armed men from the Democratic Youth Organization. These groups, to maintain public order, also include farmers, factory and office workers (December 24, 1986).

Farah

Mujahideen sources: 20 November, Mujahideen shot down a Soviet MiG fighter which was bombing their centre near Bikwa town, 50 km east of the provincial headquarters of Farah city. Hit by anti-aircraft fire the plane crashed and its Soviet pilot and crew were killed.

9 December, Mujahideen attack an army camp close to the Iranian border. About 30 Soviet troops were killed or injured. A jeep and three other vehicles were also destroyed. A number of barracks were destroyed.

Radio Tehran: The Afghan Mujahideen have shot down a jet plane of the Kabul regime in the western province of Farah. Fighter planes attempted to shell the positions of the Mujahideen near Waqwa city. One of the planes was hit by anti-aircraft fire and crashed. Its pilot was killed (December 4).

VOA: Afghan Mujahideen are reported to be retreating from their long-held mountain strongholds in the western Afghan province of Farah. In the south, however, they claim to have inflicted heavy losses on Soviet and Afghan forces.

A Mujahideen commander reports that intensive aerial bombing at his positions in Gulistan district has forced his men to retreat. The Gulistan city itself was captured last July by a combined Soviet-Afghan forces for the first time since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

Mujahideen have failed in their struggle to regain control of the city. The message tells of only one recent success of the Mujahideen, when their anti-aircraft fire hit one of the attacking helicopter gunships on November 20.

Earlier Mujahideen attacked a Soviet base on Farah road near the provincial capital, Farah city. A message says Mujahideen fired 60 missiles hitting many installations including the newly laid air-strip (December 8, 1986).

Central Afghanistan

Bamiyan

Mujahideen sources: 26 November, Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul positions (somewhere) in Bamiyan province, killing 12 troops.

27 November, Soviet-Kabul forces bombard some areas of Bamiyan province. Mujahideen shot down a helicopter which was hovering over a Mujahideen centre near Bamiyan city. 28 November, Mujahideen shot down another helicopter engaged in bombing Mujahideen positions near Bamiyan city.

In the fighting in and around the provincial headquarters of Bamiyan Mujahideen claim to have used missiles and rocket launchers as well as anti-aircraft guns and killed and wounded a large number of Soviet-Kabul troops.

VOA: Mujahideen claim to have repulsed another attack of Soviet-Kabul troops in Bamiyan province. The fighting reportedly remained limited to Pashahi valley of Andrab district. According to the reports, the valley was captured (by Mujahideen) on October 25, when area commander of Afghan troops was dismissed by Soviet higher ups on the charge of inefficiency. After this the entire militia unit of 300 men defected to the Mujahideen.

According to reports reaching Peshawar, Afghan troops with the support of Soviets, launched another attack to recapture the valley on November 26. They faced strong resistance and had to retreat after losing three tanks, four trucks and a large number of soldiers. Pashahi valley is situated at the ancient passage of caravans moving to north and west which lead to the strategic valley of Panjsher, where the renowned Mujahideen commander Ahmed Shah Masood is engaged in war (December 6, 1986).

Afghan rebels say government's bombing raids and severe drought have created famine-like conditions in Bamiyan province in central highlands of Afghanistan. Mujahideen commanders say that besides shortage of food, their forces are running short of weapons and ammunition (December 11, 1986).

Radio Tehran: Mujahideen have shot down three planes and a helicopter and killed 22 communist troops during the last two weeks in Bamiyan province (December 13).

Radio Kabul: According to Bakhtar News Agency Afghan security forces in their operations against the bandits have seized explosives placed in two Japan-made radio sets from members of Maulvi Khalis group at Langar, Charchat district. Similarly, Pakistan-made time-bombs were seized from members of a Gulbadin band (December 31).

Ghor

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen attacked a Soviet-Kabul convoy of tanks, trucks and armoured vehicles in Tolak sub-division, according to a report received on 17 November. A tank and two armoured vehi-

cles were destroyed. Fifteen Soviet-Kabul troops were killed. Mujahideen withdrew from the scene as Soviet-Kabul helicopters made their appearance. Later reports said that Mujahideen had captured some Soviet-Kabul posts in Spin Ghar and Sharak areas.

Uruzgan

No report received from any source.

Kabul and Adjacent Provinces

Kabul

Mujahideen sources: 19 November, Mujahideen fire rockets on Military Academy in Deh Sabz area of Kabul. A jeep destroyed: 4 under training cadets killed. 22 November, Soviet warplanes bombed villages in Mir Bacha Kot sub-division. Twenty-five women, children and old men among them, killed. Thirty-eight houses demolished in the villages of Farza, Qila Arim, Hasan Khel, Musalli and Bostan. 29 November, Soviet-Kabul forces try to establish new security posts in the vicinity of Jigdalak and clash with Mujahideen. Mujahideen downed 1 Soviet jet but they could not identify its type. 30 November, six militiamen killed during a Mujahideen attack on a security post in Baghshur village.

2 December, Mujahideen wipe out two of the 30 security posts newly established on the approaches of Kabul city towards Paghman valley. Twelve Soviet-Kabul troops killed. Mines, planted by Mujahideen cause destruction to 8 Soviet MVs in Jegdalik. 4 December, security posts in Deh Sabz attacked. 5 December, Mujahideen shoot down a helicopter in Jawzak area. An aircraft crashes in Tarakhel area 'due to resistance fire'. Mujahideen attack government installations in Kabul city. 6 December, Mujahideen shell a security post in Spin Qala, Shakardara. Three militiamen and one Mujahid killed. 8 December, Mujahideen fire rockets at military establishments in Rishkur and Char Asiab areas. Several buildings reportedly destroyed. 12 December, fifteen soldiers killed and 3 vehicles destroyed when Mujahideen attack a mobile Soviet-Kabul forces near Navi Pul in Kabul city.

Mujahideen claimed that on 14 December they had destroyed the "main tunnel" of the hydroelectric power plant in Saroobi. They also said they had destroyed five electric pylons in the area. Likewise it was stated that two jeeps patrolling between Pul-e-Charkhi and Kabul city were attacked. The jeeps were destroyed and their occupants killed.

During the first half of December, the Mujahideen sources report-

ed hitting 5 aircraft in Kabul province. During the night of 18 December Soviet aircraft dropped soldiers and militiamen near a Mujahideen stronghold in the vicinity of Jigdalak. On the following day a Soviet-Kabul ground forces also appeared in that area and the two forces engaged themselves in coordinated attacks on the Mujahideen strongholds. Seven Mujahideen were killed and two injured. The losses on the Soviet-Kabul side could not be ascertained. Mujahideen guessed that the Soviets were planning to substantially increase the number of security posts in the vicinity of Jigdalak along the Kabul-Jalalabad highway.

VOIR: Reports from Kabul say that the Mujahideen shot down a Soviet transport plane on 21st November in the east of Kabul. All the 30 persons on board are reported to have been killed. The aircraft was being used for transportation of government troops and Soviet military advisers (December 6).

Radio Tehran: Two helicopters of the Soviet occupation forces were shot down by Afghan revolutionaries with the help of anti-aircraft guns in Paghman area of Kabul. In retaliation to the Mujahideen's attacks, the communist forces bombarded the northern areas of Kabul. Report says that the Afghan revolutionaries shot down another helicopter of the Soviet-Kabul troops (December 8).

BBC: A Soviet army newspaper has carried an account of how Afghan rebels crippled a passenger airliner with 25 people on board. The paper said the plane burst into flames after being hit by an American-made anti-aircraft missile. But the Afghan pilot managed to land and there was no loss of life. The paper said the attack occurred near a village just over ten miles from Kabul, but it did not say when it happened (December 28).

VOA: There was increased guerilla activity in Kabul last week resulting in heavy losses to Soviet and Afghan government forces. Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad have reported of shooting down of at least five aircrafts during the period, with 40 Afghan troops killed in one transport plane.

The onset of winter and bad weather have combined in favour of the Mujahideen fighting Soviet and Afghan forces in Afghanistan according to western diplomatic sources. Another factor is the improved accuracy of Mujahideen firepower which comes with the introduction of what the sources say are new weapons, among them are highly sophisticated Swiss-made anti-aircraft guns. According to information received in Kabul, Mujahideen last week shot down three helicopters, one jet and one military transport plane around the capital. The sources said only five out of the 45 troops on board could bale out before being

hit with a missile east of Kabul.

Citing reliable reports the sources said the Mujahideen killed 30 to 40 Afghan troops on December 2, when they ambushed a military convoy some 15 km southwest of Kabul. They said an armoured column later sent to retaliate was forced to withdraw against heavy Mujahideen firing. In Kabul itself the sources reported several resistance rocket attacks from different direction (December 9).

Radio Kabul: A group of counter-revolutionary elements which was involved in disruptionist activities in Paghman Wolesswali was wiped out by the armed forces in the course of successful operations. Different kinds of arms were seized from the criminals (December 1). The charge of military organisations of the Kabul Balahisar was handed over to the Afghan Defence Ministry by the Soviet limited contingent at special ceremonies held on 7th December. Earlier, Soviet troops were stationed in the Kabul Balahissar. They returned home recently after performing their international duty in Afghanistan. The Chairman of Afghan Ministerial Council, Sultan Ali Kishmand, Afghan Defence Minister, Major General Muhammad Rafi and high-ranking military officers attended the ceremonies. The Assistant to the Defence Minister on Technical Affairs and a high Soviet military officer signed the protocol regarding the handing over of the organisations to the Afghan Defence Ministry (December 8). 17 bandits, who are members of a international network of drug smugglers were captured by the Kabul security forces. The smugglers had concealed Hashish in the boxes of cereals to be exported abroad, skilfully planned to be shipped when a high level delegation was leaving for Soviet Union. The boxes seized were similar to those hauled by Soviet authorities when they recovered narcotics from such containers of a US firm, some time back (December 29, 1986).

Parwan

Mujahideen sources: 18 November, Mujahideen destroy a tank on the main road of Charikar. 20 November, a tank destroy on a mine field laid by Mujahideen in Khawaja Sayaran valley. 23 November, Mujahideen attack a post in Sofiyan, killing six Soviet-Kabul soldiers. 24 November, Mujahideen attack a post in Laghmani village. 25 November, Soviet aircraft bombard rural areas near Charikar. Three civilians were killed and 17 others injured. Mujahideen attack the Ahmad Beg Military camp in Najrab district. The same day Mujahideen also struck the Tonchi post and overrun two posts near Charikar. Soviet-Kabul forces shelled the villages of Sadi Khel, Chenki, Kakakhel, Ali Khel and Shinwari. Several houses demolished. 26 November, annual examination of

schools were held in the Liberated Areas of Parwan, a Mujahideen spokesman disclosed. 27 November, Mujahideen attack Bagram air base with rockets. Four aircraft, a number of military vehicles and some buildings were destroyed. 28 November, Mujahideen attack security posts in Bagram area for the second time in 3 days.

2 December, Mujahideen attack two Soviet-Kabul security posts near Nauman town. Five Soviet-Kabul soldiers killed. Mujahideen seize some arms and ammunition. 3-4-5 December, Mujahideen invest army posts near Nauman town. The operation lasted several days. Twelve Soviet-Kabul troops were killed on the first day. On December 5 Soviet-Kabul troops, from within the posts and without, hit back and break the siege, with the help of tanks and aircraft. Long range guns located in the Soviet army camp near Bagram airport and those in Jabalus Siraj area also participated in bombardment on the Mujahideen. Two Soviet-Kabul tanks were destroyed. 6 December, Soviet-Kabul forces attacked Mujahideen position at Sufian but faced stiff resistance. 7 December, Russian troops try to enter the region of Sofyan via Haji Sali Road. In the encounter that resulted the invaders lost a tank, a truck and several soldiers. 10 December, Mujahideen shoot down a helicopter flying out from Bagram airport. 11-12 December, an armoured column apparently commissioned to provide supplies to isolated Soviet-Kabul posts farther in Kapisa province was attacked on the Kabul-Mazar highway. Twenty-six vehicles including tanks were destroyed and their drivers and crew killed. Soviet-Kabul forces using BM-41, BM-21 and BM-13, shelled the positions of Mujahideen and civilians areas. Eighteen houses in the villages were demolished. 13 December, Soviet-Kabul troops attack Mujahideen positions in Qali Beland. Fighting continued for several days. Ultimately, the Soviet-Kabul forces had to retreat leaving behind 12 damaged or destroyed tanks/APCs and many dead and wounded. 15 December, Mujahideen attack a Soviet-Kabul convoy carrying oil and other petroleum products. Eleven oil tankers destroyed. 16 December, Soviet-Kabul troops attack Mujahideen strongholds near Bagram township. In two days of fighting the invaders lost two tanks and several dead. Soviet-Kabul forces had mainly issued from the Bagram airport area which also serves as the living quarters of Soviet and Kabul soldiers, as well as residences of higher party cadres. Bagram airport has been a favourite target of Mujahideen rocket/missile attacks. Fourteen Mujahideen were killed in the fighting, including two commanders, Maulvi Said Bashir and Baba Khan. 18 December, Mujahideen attack and capture a security post at Khala Zae. 19 December, Mujahideen attack and capture security post in Charikar. 20 December, Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul posi-

tions in Gulbahar Textile Company complex. Forty Soviet-Kabul troops killed or wounded. 27 December, Mujahideen attack a Russian force in Qalai Surkh and inflict heavy losses on them.

Radio Tehran: The Afghan revolutionaries repulsed an attack of Soviet-Kabul troops last week in Parwan province north-west of Kabul. Besides killing 200 enemy troops they destroyed a jet fighter, a helicopter and some tanks and military vehicles (December 5, 1986). The Afghan revolutionaries foiled a big offensive of the Soviet-Kabul troops on 23rd December in Parwan province following 12 days of resistance. In these operations 12 tanks of the usurpers were destroyed and 25 soldiers of the Kabul regime joined the ranks of the Mujahideen along with their weapons (December 30, 1986).

Radio Kabul: A band of Rabbani group led by Almas was wiped out by the security forces. A number of terrorists were killed in successful operations in Jabl-e-Sara Ulaswali and Salang Pass. A huge quantity of arms was also seized from them by the security forces (December 2). 'Counter-revolutionary bandits' conducted a number of attacks on civilians at Rabat, Laghmani, Sofian and Charikar (December 11). Two CIA agents of Arab origin, Abdur Rehman and Anas were wiped out by the heroic armed forces in the course of their successful operations in the outskirts of Parwan province on 25 December. In these operations a ring leader of the Gulbadin band Maulvi Syed Bashir was also killed. It is not for the first time that these spies of CIA have been punished for their evil deeds in Afghanistan. In the past too, several British and American spies were killed during the operations of the heroic armed forces (December 27).

Kapisa

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen killed 20 Soviet troops in a clash in Feraj valley of Panjsher on 16 November. A Soviet-Kabul forces of tanks, APCs and other vehicles and backed by aircraft reached Saroobi via Tagab on 30 November. The force encountered stiff resistance from the Mujahideen. A later report said that an army lieutenant (Noor Mohammad) and his 35 comrades stationed at military camp in Nijrab town killed the camp commander (Major Nazar Mohammad) and five other non-commissioned officers. They joined the Mujahideen along with a quantity of arms and ammunition in two heavy transports.

Radio Tehran: In an operation the Mujahideen killed 40 communist troops in Kapisa province (December 30).

Radio Kabul: Security forces destroyed 2 positions of the bandits in the Panjsher valley and captured a big quantity of missiles and land mines. Moreover, security forces wiped out 3 ring leaders of a criminal

band, arrested a number of dacoits and seized their weapons (December 7, 1986).

Laghman

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen frustrated a campaign for conscription for the army in Laghman valley. Soviet-Kabul troops in armoured vehicles encircled Dand area of Qarghai sub-division on December 12. They wanted to search house for drafting able-bodied persons avoiding conscription. Mujahideen attacked the government force which fled. Mujahideen put up stiff resistance against an attack conducted by Soviet-Kabul forces in Kochak area (in Laghman province). According to a report received on 19 December, a number of Soviet-Kabul soldiers, including officers, were killed or wounded.

Radio Kabul: Another 50 Afghans have returned to their homeland (December 10).

Radio Moscow: Recently Afghan security forces arrested Sher Afzal who was one of the officers incharge of counter-revolutionary bands operating in Laghman province. He disclosed that he had received six months training in an educational centre located near Peshawar city of Pakistan (December 18). A large number of Afghan nationals who had fled abroad are returning home. Another 420 Afghans have returned to Laghman province (December 24).

Logar

Mujahideen sources: 19 November, Mujahideen attack security post in Pul-e-Alam, provincial centre of Logar. Four Russians and five regime officers were killed and 10 Russians were injured. 20 November, a group of Russian soldiers ambushes an Afghan refugee convoy in Logar. They killed two women and two children and took their ornaments, money and watches.

Date not mentioned: Mujahideen shelled Ainak Copper Mine with ground-to-ground rockets and 82 mm cannon. Three security posts were destroyed and several buildings suffered damage. The report which was received on 15 December said that on the day following the attack two helicopters lifted the dead and wounded from the area. 22 November, Mujahideen fire rockets on two security posts in Mohammad Agha sub-division. A rocket hit an ammunition depot. 23 November, Mujahideen raid a military camp near Mohammad Agha town.

On December 5, Mujahideen conducted a missile attack on military installations in Pul-e-Alam, the headquarters of Logar valley. Two barracks were destroyed. Seventeen Soviet troops were killed. On the following day, Soviet troops attacked Mujahideen centre near Barqi

Barq town. The invaders retreated carrying with them three dead bodies and leaving behind the wreckage of a tank. On 7 December, Mujahideen carried out coordinated attacks on security posts in Kutub Khel and Bad-e-Khawab, killing ten Kabul troops. Three Mujahideen were also killed. On 13 December, Mujahideen attacked Soviet-Kabul troops at Shagha Qila and Qarya Saadat Khan. A tank was destroyed.

VOA: Diplomats drew attention that there have been indications during the last few days that fierce fighting has been going on in the Logar province south of Kabul. The diplomats said that they saw many Soviet ambulances plying in Kabul recently. Most of them seemed to be packed with seriously wounded Soviet troops. They said they had seen reports that Soviet tanks and armoured vehicles have been badly damaged during the last few days (December 31).

Wardak

Mujahideen sources: Soviet aircraft bombed Mujahideen positions in Hazarajat during the last week of November. About 200 houses were destroyed. Mujahideen brought down a MiG early in the morning on 3 December. Soviet aircraft again bombed Mujahideen positions in Hazarajat. An aircraft fell near Khawaja Muzafar, Paghman. About 10.00 a.m. sixteen jets appeared and started shelling, strafing and bombing. Another two jets were brought down near Jalraiz. The villages bombed were in the region of Kote Ashtro, Maidan Shahr, Nerkh, Charaka, Karim Dad and Mar Khana. A great many houses were razed to ground and men, women and children killed. On 7 December, a force of hundreds of tanks and other vehicles moving out from Kabul for Ghazni was attacked by Mujahideen in Saidabad district. Three tanks were destroyed and their crew killed. The road remained closed for 6 hours. Mujahideen commander Gul Rahman was among those killed in the daring holdup.

APPENDIX — 1

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN DECEMBER 1986: MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES

Soviet Casualties: 222 killed and 60 wounded.

Kabul Casualties: 1157 killed and 310 wounded.

Soviet-Kabul Casualties: 465 killed and 542 wounded.

Defections: 588 Kabul troops defected and 285 captured. 23 Soviet troops captured.

Mujahideen Casualties: 132 killed and 327 wounded.

Afghan Civilian Casualties: 148 killed and 26 wounded. 60 civilians arrested.

Soviet-Kabul Material Losses: 13 aircraft; 13 helicopters; 61 tanks; 30 APCs; 23 tanks/APCs. 81 HMTVs; 127 trucks; 12 oil tankers; 7 jeeps; 116 LMGs; 11 HMGs (beside 8 Zikys, 5 dshk); 497 klashnikovs; 50 security posts; 15 mortars; 1100 rounds besides 105 boxes of ammunition; 300 various arms (beside 35 different guns and 32 Gorinovs); 50 mines; 5 electric pylons; 9 residences; 13 buildings and 3 barracks.

Mujahideen and Afghan Civilian Material Losses: 15 villages; 216 houses; 6 Mosques/Schools; 2 hotels; 3 bases; various arms.

APPENDIX — 2

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN DECEMBER 1986: SOVIET-KABUL (RADIO KABUL) SOURCES

Mujahideen and Afghan Civilian ("Counter-revolutionaries")
Losses: 186 killed and 51 captured.

Returnees (those availing amnesty, voluntarily surrendering, changing allegiance and joining Soviet-Kabul ranks: 770.

Mujahideen Material Losses: 30 klashnikovs; 5225 missiles; 24 RPG; 18 mortars; 1417 RPG shells; 5 different quantities of arms and ammunition; 39 bases/hideouts; 86 HMGs (beside 4 Zkygs and 27 Dshks); 376 various arms; 20 missile launching units; 343 boxes and 1,58,000 rounds of ammunition; 11 food and cloth depots; 2 vehicles; 7178 various mines.

APPENDIX — 3

PROVINCEWISE INCIDENTS IN DECEMBER 1986 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

		Total Engagements	Provincial Capital	
Bordering Pakistan	Nimruz	x	Zaranj	
	Hilmand		Lashkargarh	
	Qandahar	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Qandahar	xxvv
		xxxx		
	Zabul	xxxx	Qalat Gilzai	
	Ghazni	xxxx	Ghazni	
	Paktika	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Sharna	
	Paktiya	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Gardez	
Bordering Soviet Union	Ningarhar	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Jalalabad	xxx
		xxxxxxxxxxxx		
	Kunar	xxxxxxxxxxxx	Chagha Sarai	
	Badakhshan		Faizabad	
	Takhar	xxxxxxx	Taloqan	x
	Kunduz	xx	Kunduz	
	Baghlan	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Baghlan	
	Samangan	xx	Samangan	
Bordering Iran	Balkh	xx	Mazar-i-Sharif	
	Jozjan		Shebergan	
	Faryab	xxxxxxxxxx	Maimana	
	Badghis	xx	Qala Nau	
	Herat	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Herat	v
	Farah	xxx	Farah	x
	(Nimruz)		(Zaranj)	
	Bamiyan	xxxxx	Bamiyan	
Central Afghanistan	Ghor	xx	Changcharan	
	Uruzgan		Tarin Kot	
	Kabul	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Kabul	xxxv
Kabul & Adj. Provinces		xxxxxxx		
	Parwan	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Charikar	xxvvv
		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
	Kapisa	xxxx	Mahmud-i-Raqi	
	Laghman	xxxx	Mehtarlam	
	Logar	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	Pule Alam	xx
	Wardak		Kotelesro	
	TOTAL:	255		

x = Inside city

v = Vicinity of city

APPENDIX — 4

MUJAHIDEEN MOBILE AND IMMOBILE TARGETS AND SOVIET—KABUL OPERATIONS IN DECEMBER 1986 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

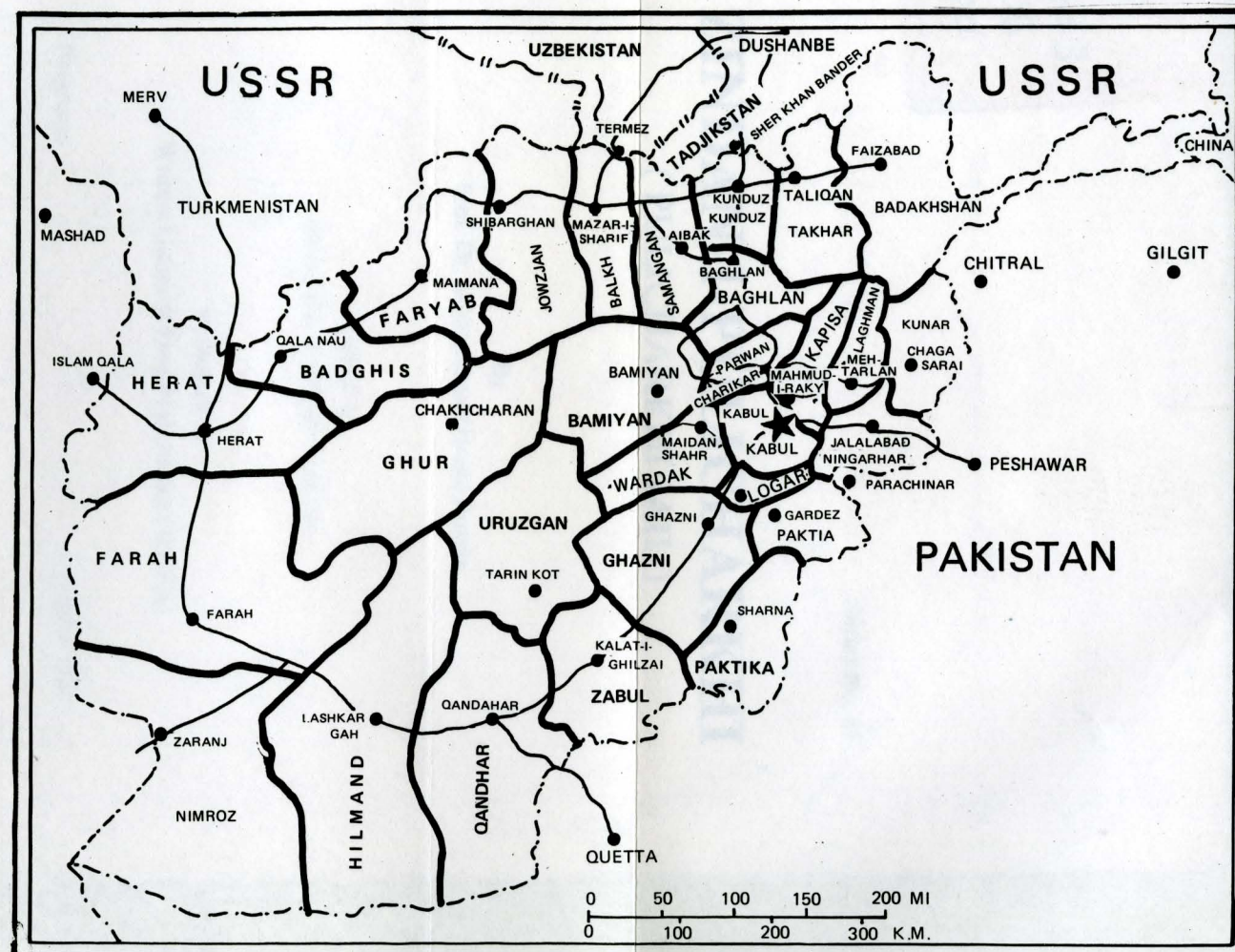
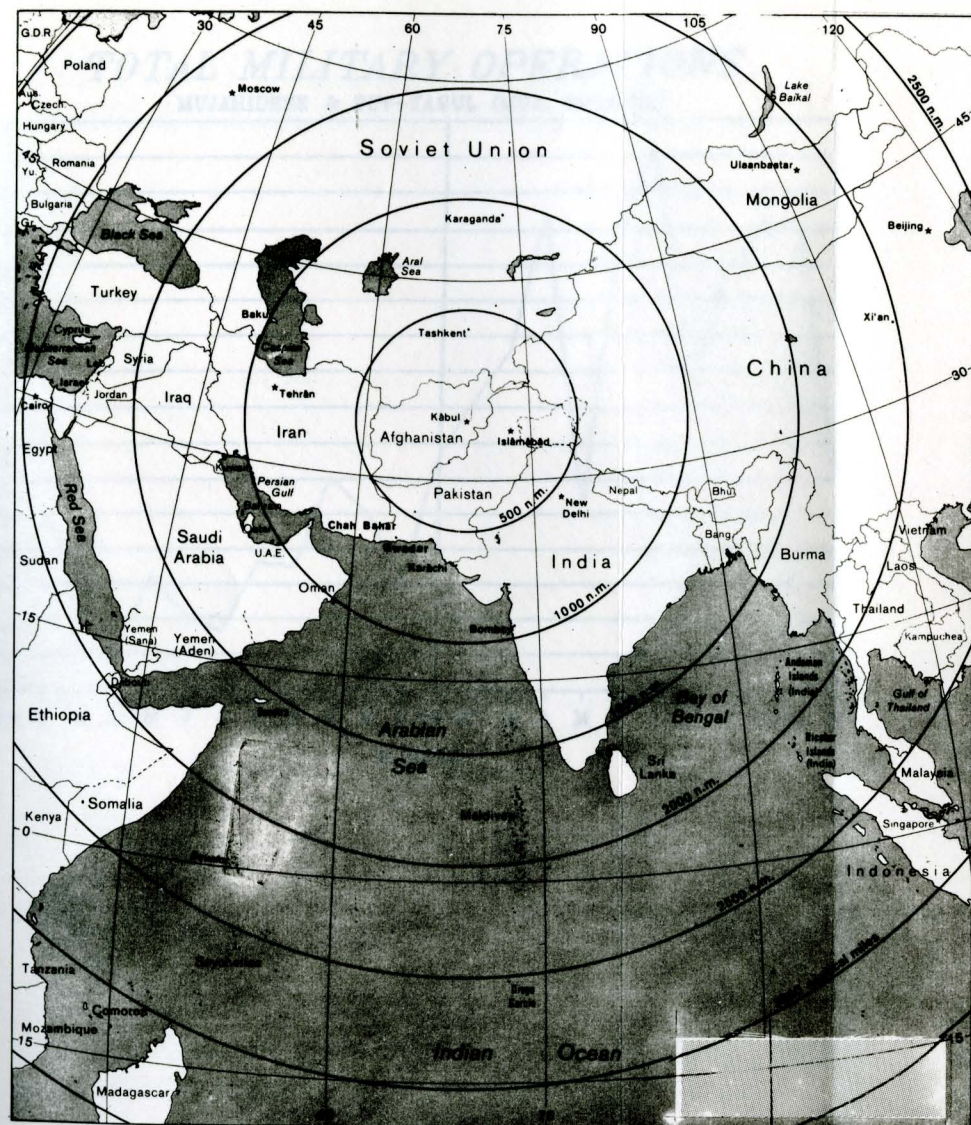
		Mujahideen Mobile Targets	Mujahideen Immobile Targets	Soviet-Kabul Operations-Air & Ground
Bordering Pakistan	Nimruz	x		
	Hilmand			
	Qandahar	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx
	Zabul	xxx	x	
	Ghazni	xxx		x
	Paktika	xxxxxxx	xxxx	xxx
	Paktiya	xxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	
	Ningarhar	xxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxx
	Kunar	xxxx	xxxxxxx	x
Bordering Soviet Union	Badakhshan			
	Takhar	xxx	xxx	xx
	Kunduz	x	x	
	Baghlan	xx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	x
			xxxx	
	Samangan		xx	
	Balkh		xx	
	Jowzjan			
	Faryab	xxxxx	xxxx	
	Badghis	xx		
	Herat	xxxx	xxxxxxxxx	xxxx
	Farah	x	x	x
Bordering Iran	(Nimruz)			
	Bamiyan	xx	xx	x
	Ghor	x	x	
Central Afghanistan	Uruzgan			
	Kabul	xxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxx
Kabul & Adj. Provinces	Parwan	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx
	Kapisa	xx	xxxx	xx
	Laghman	xx		xx
	Logar	xx	xxxxxxxxx	x
	Wardak			
	TOTAL:	81	126	48

APPENDIX — 5

PROVINCEWISE SOVIET—KABUL SECURITY OPERATIONS & RETURNEES IN DECEMBER 1986 (RADIO KABUL)

		Soviet-Kabul Operations	Returnees
Bordering Pakistan	Nimruz		
	Hilmand	xxxxxxx	
	Qandahar	xxxxx	
	Zabul		
	Ghazni		
	Paktika		
	Paktiya		
	Ningarhar	xxxxxxx	
Bordering Soviet Union	Kunar	ccc	
	Badakhshan		
	Takhar		
	Kunduz		
	Baghlan	x	
	Samangan		
	Balkh	xxx	R (40)
	Jozjan		R (100)
Bordering Iran	Faryab		
	Badghis		
	Herat	x	
	Farah		
Central Afghanistan	(Nimruz)		
	Bamiyan	x	
	Ghor		
	Uruzgan		
Kabul & Adj. Provinces	Kabul	xx	
	Parwan	xxxxccc	
	Kapisa	xxx	
	Laghman	xx	(RRR (630)
	Logar		
	Wardak		
TOTAL:		34 Security forces operations (x) 8 'Counter-revolutionaries acts (c)	770 Returnees

APPENDIX — VI A



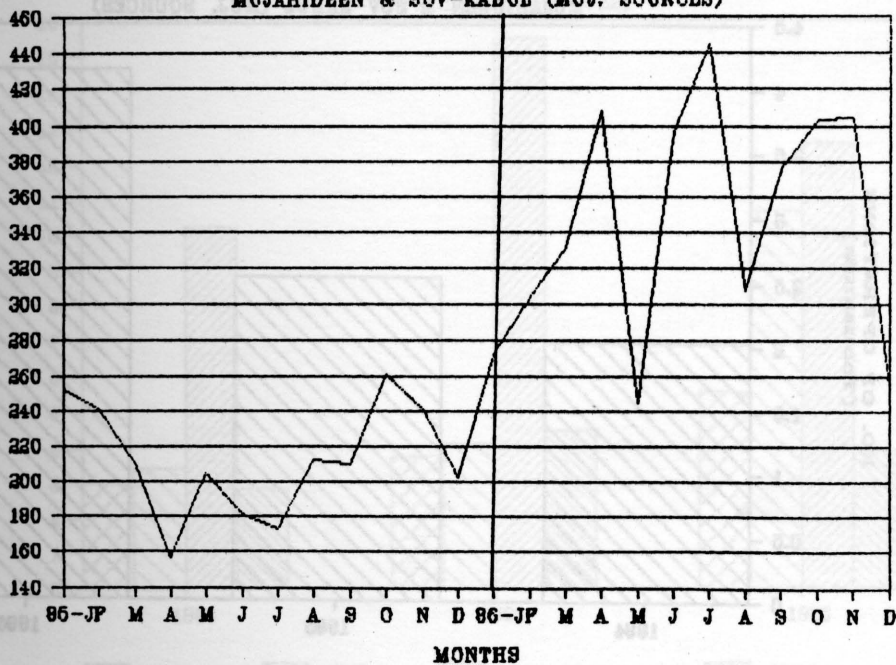
Mujahideen sources: Conflict reported during December 1986 in 24 out of 29 provinces of Afghanistan *except* Hilmand, Badakhshan, Jozjan, Uruzgan and Wardak.

Radio Kabul: Conflict reported in 12 provinces: Hilmand, Qandahar, Ningarhar, Kunar, Baghlan, Balkh, Herat, Bamiyan, Kabul, Parwan, Kapisa and Laghman.

TOTAL MILITARY OPERATIONS.

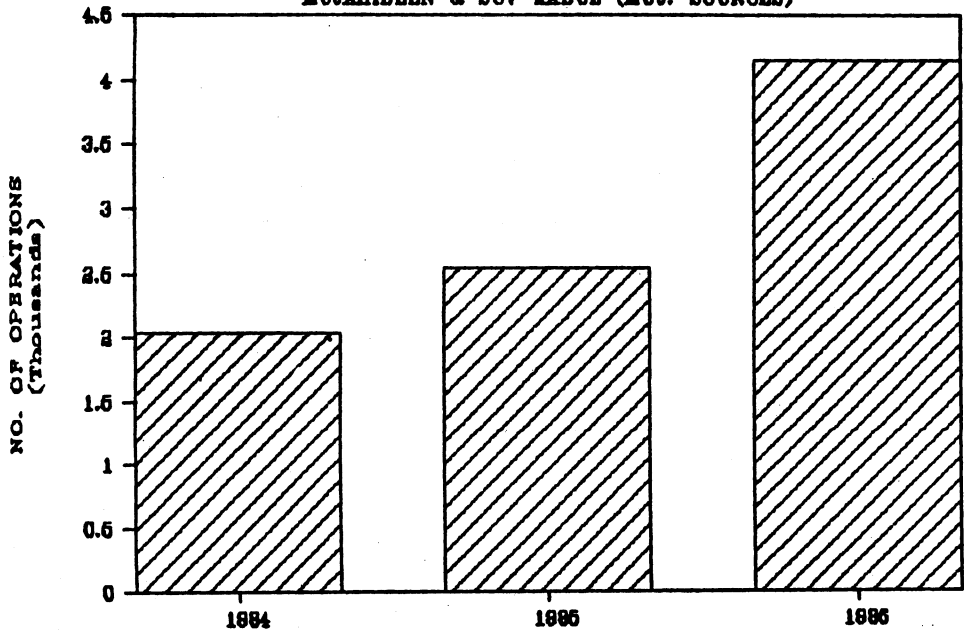
MUJAHIDEEN & SOV-KABUL (MUJ. SOURCES)

NO. OF OPERATIONS



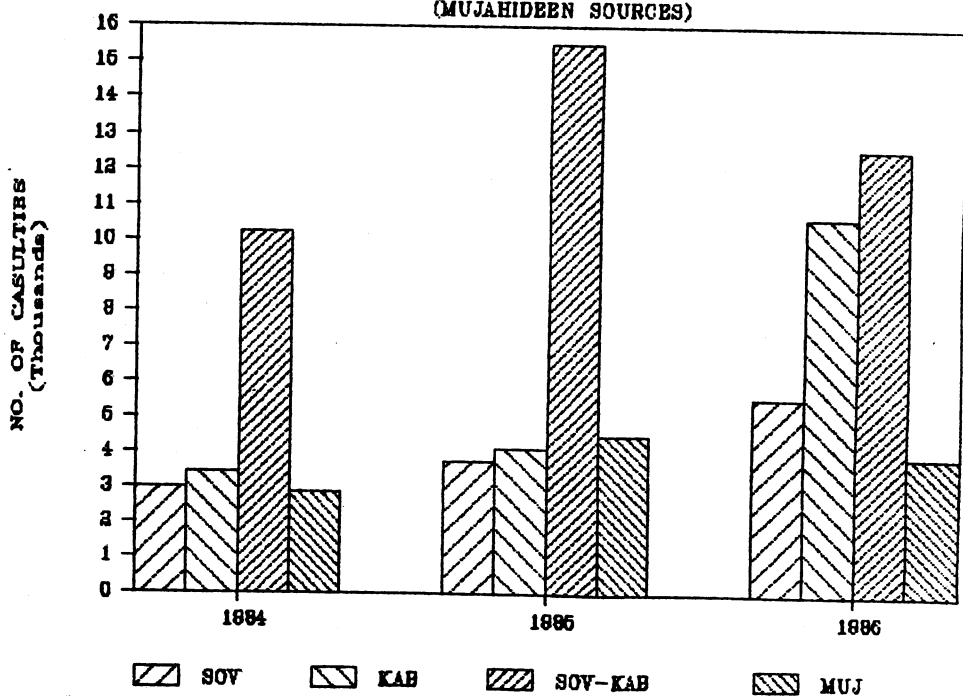
TOTAL MILITARY OPERATIONS.

MUJAHIDEEN & SOV-KABUL (MUJ. SOURCES)



HUMAN LOSSES.

(MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)



II.— THE POLITICO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

1 — FOREIGN VISITS AND AGREEMENTS

Messages

Messages on various occasions were sent to, recieved from and exchanged with the following countries; Banin, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Laos, Mongolia and Soviet Union.

GDR

A protocol on cultural and scientific cooperation was signed on 3 December 1986 in Kabul between the DRA and the German Democratic Republic for 1986-87. According to the protocol the GDR would cooperate and render assistance to the DRA in the fields of culture, higher and vocational education, social sciences, technical education and sports (*KNT*, 4 December).

India

A power sub-station and pump house complex of the Kabul industrial estate built with Indian assistance was inaugurated. The station has been built at a cost of 4.1 million Rupees. It is equipped with 3 transformers of 1,250 KVA each. The pump house with it's control and distribution system has a capacity of 35,000 litres. The complex will meet the needs for power and water supply for 80-100 projects to be built in the industrial sector (*KNT*, 6 December).

Iraq

A delegation of the Afghan-Iraq Friendship Association led by its President Dr. Najib Yaseen arrived in Kabul on 2nd December 1986, on an official and friendly visit to Afghanistan. The delegation will also meet the Deputy Foreign Minister Sarwar Yurish (Radio Kabul, 3 December).

PLO

Noor Ahmed Noor, Member of CC of PDPA held a meeting with PLO delegation on 24 December. The delegation was led by the member of PLO CC (Radio Kabul, 26 December).

Poland

The DRA and Poland have signed a protocol on cooperation and

exchange of films, between the state committee for Radio-TV and cinematography of the DRA and the cinematographic institution of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts of Poland. Afghan film makers will also participate in short term training courses sponsored by Poland (*KNT*, 7 December).

The Social Sciences Institute of the DRA and the Academy of Social Sciences of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party (PUWP) have signed a protocol on scientific and cultural cooperation. Both sides will exchange their scholars, research and scientific materials and provide facilities for post graduate studies to students of each side (*KNT*, 14 December).

Mongolia

A delegation of DRA left for Mongolia to attend the 14th Congress of the Presidium of AAPSO which is to meet in Ulan Batar on 16 December (*KNT*, 11 December).

USSR

Salang Tunnel Renovated. The documents relating to the renovation and equipment of technical system of Salang tunnel were handed over by the Soviet Union to Afghanistan. The renovation work had started 2 years ago with the Soviet aid, for improving the transport system of the northern parts of the country. The 2700 miles long Salang tunnel, designed by Soviet designers, crosses the Hindukush range. Fire extinguishing system, TV, ventilation canals, telephone, powerful radiators, reservoir of fuel are placed in the tunnel to guarantee safe traffic (*KNT*, 28 December).

Mohammad Osman Rasik, Attorney General DRA left for Moscow on 1 December 1986 on the invitation of the Attorney General of the USSR (*KNT*, 2 December).

The Soviet Central Asian Republic Party and government delegation on a visit to Afghanistan visited Technical and Agricultural Institutions in Mazar-i-Sharif (Radio Kabul, 3 December).

The 8th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship Cooperation and Good Neighbourliness between DRA and the Soviet Union was marked on 5 December 1986. The USSR's assistance to DRA after 1978 till now, which includes project and consumer loans and aid, amounts to 1.1 billion dollars. Taking all accounts, the total assistance for the Soviet Union to DRA comes to about 3 billion dollars (*KNT*, 6 December).

Najib visited Soviet Union in December 1986, heading a high level delegation, at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of Supreme Soviet of USSR. Expressing support to

Afghan national reconciliation Mr. Gorbachev said that Soviet Union will not abandon it's neighbour to a difficult situation (*KNT*, 13 December).

The Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reforms of DRA and the Institution of Vostokintorg of the Soviet Union, has signed a contract for supply of 10,000 tons of animal fodder costing 1,225,000 roubles (*KNT*, 14 December).

A contract on the provision of equipment needed for reconstruction of Kabul-Hairaton Highway was signed on 14 December between the DRA and the Soviet Union. The equipment costing 5,100,000 roubles from the long term credit of the Soviet Union is consisted of dump trucks, hydraulic jacks, bulldozers, concrete mixers etc. The equipment will be delivered to Afghanistan in 2 years (*KNT*, 15 December).

Vietnam

A delegation left for Hanoi on December 10, 1986 to participate in the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam (*KNT*, 11 December).

2 — POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Politburo Session Held

A periodic session of the Politburo of the Central Committee, was held to assess the work and activities of Ningarhar Provincial Party Committee regarding the accomplishment of organisational and political work in the light of the demands of the 19th Plenum of the PDPA CC. The Politburo noted that despite the accomplished work, the provincial party committee has defects and weaknesses in it's work (*KNT*, 20 December).

PDPA Membership Cards Distributed

Membership cards of the PDPA was distributed on 6 December 1986 to the former members of the Vanguard Organisation of the working people of Afghanistan who had recently declared the unity of their organisation with the PDPA (*KNT*, 7 December).

PDPA CC Organizational Seminar Held

The 10th Training Organizational Seminar of the PDPA CC was held on 30 December 1986. Secretaries of provincial city, district party committees and primary party organizations, head of organizational departments of provincial party committees and Kabul city, activists

of political department of the armed forces, head of social organizations and personnel of the organizational department of the PDPA CC participated in the seminar (*KNT*, 31 December).

Appointments

According to the reports of Afghan News Agency, Najib has been elected the Chairman of the Commission to draft a national constitution. Najib is also the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party (Radio Moscow, 25 December).

On the basis of the proposal by the Council of Ministers of the DRA and approval by the Presidium of the RC of the DRA, following appointments have been made in the Council of Ministers of the DRA:

1. Lt. Gen. Nazar Mohammad as First Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers.
2. Brig. Gen. Mohammad Rafi as Defence Minister.
3. Abdul Wakil as Foreign Minister of the DRA.
4. Shah Mohammad Dost as Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Ambassador of the DRA at the UNO (Radio Kabul, 5 December).

Elections

In continuation of the second phase of elections of people's deputies to local organs of state power and administration, in the month of December as reported by the *KNT*. 28 deputies were elected in Balkh province, 38 in Ningarhar province, 21 in Samangan province. Similarly 45 in Kabul province, 9 in Faryab province, 11 in Jauzjan province (*KNT*, 1, 7, 8, 16, 21 and 22 December).

National Fatherland Front (NFF)

The Kabul City NFF Council has 330,000 members of whom 21,000 are organized in residential area councils. The Kabul City Council was formed in 1981, which now comprised of 11 wards and 611 local councils. The individual member of the council comprise 21.9% Pashtoos, 45.3% Tajiks, 19.1% Uzbeks, 5.9% Baluchis, 5.7% Nooristanis, 2.5% Hindus and Sikhs and 4.1% of other nationalities (*KNT*, 30 December).

The 2nd Conference of Kabul City Council of the NFF was held on 14 December 1986. 471 members from 11 precinct NFF councils were elected as the delegates to the 2nd congress of the NFF Council. The conference also elected 25 persons as members of the Presidium of the Council (*KNT*, 15 December).

A district council of the NFF was formed recently in Dara-e-

Paich district of Kunar province. Over 10,300 residents of the province are organized in one city, five district, four sub-district, 39 residential and 33 village councils of the NFF of the province. About 16 residential and village councils of the NFF with 840 members have been set up in Samangan province during 1986 (*KNT*, 3 December).

Trade Union

The 17th Plenum of the Kabul City Council of the TUA was held on 19 December 1986, to discuss the implementation of the decisions of the 16-20th Plenum of the PDPA CC. The main report of the TU's said that the council has now 172,663 members of whom 26,137 are craftsmen, 2,521 workers of private sector and 144,005 other toilers. They are organized in 644 primary organizations, including public and private sectors (*KNT*, 20 December).

National Reconciliation Commission Starts Proceedings

In Afghanistan, the National Reconciliation Commission has started its proceedings. It is claimed by the Afghan government that 400 leaders of the anti-government "gangs" have decided to hold negotiations with the commission. The Moscow Radio correspondent has reported that nearly 13,000 members of the anti-Afghan "gangs" have surrendered during last one year (Radio Moscow, 12 December).

Political Club Inaugurated in Aibak

Political club inaugurated in Aibak city, Samangan province. It helps in the collection of demands ideas and proposals of citizen set forth for ensuring national reconciliation, ceasing bloodshed and creating nation wide peace (*KNT*, 4 December).

Publicity Team in Ningarhar

A joint publicity team of the PDPA CC and General Department of the Army's Political Affairs Department visited Ningarhar to explain the objectives of the April Revolution. The team explained the resolution of the 20th Plenum of the party and the policy of national reconciliation to the people (*KNT*, 25 December).

Meeting Held

A meeting was held at the Central Military Hospital, where the Soviet and Afghan doctors work. Addressing the meeting, Mr. Najib said Soviet Union is sincerely desirous of an early political and peaceful settlement of the situation in the country. He also admitted the hurdles in the way of progressive changes in the country (Radio Moscow, 1

December).

Political Situation

According to the western diplomatic sources, ouster of Karmal is the continuing source of turmoil in Kabul. They also add that Karmal's ouster is continuing to have a whipping effect down to the Afghan bureaucracy with many known Karmal supporters being pushed out of their positions at state and party level (VOA, 4 December).

The former Secretary of the Communist Party of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal has assured the Afghan government of not taking part in any political activities (Quoting *Jang Pakistan*, Radio Tehran, 5 December).

3 — ECONOMY

Agriculture

77,800 hectares will be utilized for cultivating wheat, barely and other cereals and vegetables, in the autumn sowing campaign of 1986. 2,000 tons of fertilizers and 45 tons of improved wheat seeds will be distributed to peasants in this campaign which began in October 1986 and will end in January 1987 (KNT, 2 December).

Over 75,000 hectares are reported to have been tilled and cultivated with wheat and other cereals in the autumn sowing campaign of 1986 in Herat, registering 9,000 hectares increase over the autumn sowing campaign of last year. The peasants were also distributed with fertilizers and wheat seeds costing 2.9 million Afghanis from the agricultural development bank on credit basis (KNT, 30 December).

Land Reforms

From the beginning of the first phase of the implementation of land and water reforms till now, 757,878 hectares of land has been distributed to 336,097 families of landless peasants and small land holders. 1,197 peasant councils set up by the operation groups of land and water reforms and members take active part in the implementation of the reforms. The implementation of the reforms is being carried out in 28 provinces and Khost division with the participation of the peasants and 79 operation groups (KNT, 22 December).

319 land deeds were recently distributed to landless and small land holders of Kunduz, Zabul and Laghman provinces. 145 land deeds were distributed in Hazrat-i-Imam district of Kunduz, 63-90 peasant families of Zabul and 75-84 families of sub-district of Maskora and Pacha Khel centre of Laghman province (KNT, 25 December).

Exports

Over 414,000 sq metres of carpets and rugs were exported by the national traders and Afghan Carpet Exporters Guild, achieving an increase of 19% over last year (*KNT*, 1 December).

Private Sector

According to the data released by the Central Statistics Centre of the DRA, out of the total volume of gross national product amounting to 177.9 billion in 1985, the private sector accounted for 74% amounting to 131.5 billion Afghanis (*KNT*, 17 December).

ADB Credit Distributed

The Agricultural Development Bank (ADB) has given over 111 million Afghanis loan on easy terms to individual peasants and peasant cooperatives during 1986. Over 57,400,000 Afghanis were distributed to individual peasant and 53,600,000 Afghanis to agricultural cooperatives on short, medium and long terms. The bank also sold agricultural implements including tractors and water pumps valued at 53,700,000 Afghanis to peasant and agricultural cooperatives in 1986 (*KNT*, 23 December).

Power Supply

A 110 KV high voltage power line from the Soviet Union to Kunduz was commissioned on 28 December 1986. The power line will supply electricity to the residents of Kunduz, Takhar and Baghlan provinces. The project has been established with the economic and technical cooperation of the Soviet Union (*KNT*, 29 December).

Cooperatives

4 consumer goods cooperatives and one consumer store were recently opened in Kunduz, Balkh, Kabul and Qandahar, 6 peasant cooperatives were rehabilitated in Balkh province during 1986. There are 26 agricultural cooperatives with a strength of 8,219 peasants in the province. One peasant cooperative and 2 consumer cooperatives with 305 members were recently set up in Parwan province (*KNT*, 7, 10, 11 December).

Domestic Production

The textile mills of the state sector produced 26.69 million metres of cotton and 124.21 thousand metres of woollen cloth in 1986. The production of cotton cloth increased by 3.4% and of woollen cloth by 5.1% over the last year (*KNT*, 3 December).

The thermal power and fertilizer plant of Mazar-i-Sharif produced over 65,000 tons of urea fertilizers in 1986, which is 25% above the plan and an increase of 5% over the production during last year. 115 million KW electric power was also produced by the plant, achieving 107% implementation of the plan. Power and urea fertilizer are the main products of the plant. Over 2200 workers and staff are employed in the plant (*KNT*, 16 December).

Domestic Projects

70 industrial projects in the private sector with an initial investment of 509 million Afghanis and working capital of 1.33 billion Afghanis were registered and approved in 1986. 49 of these projects are proposed in Kabul and the rest in other provinces of the country. The amount production of the projects will be 2.618 billion Afghanis and employment for 2,123 persons (*KNT*, 9 December).

Domestic Lendings

KNT reports that the state gives millions of Afghanis as loans to peasants on easy terms in a bid to raise their living standard and agricultural production (1 December).

Domestic Trade

The store No. 3 of Samangan border trade department was set up recently in Khulm district of the province. The department store was established with an initial capital of Afghanis 1,100,000. It sells essential consumer goods (*KNT*, 27 December).

Sowing Campaign

More than 7,000 hectares of land will be cultivated with wheat in the autumn campaign of 1986 in Faryab province (*KNT*, 6 December).

Construction of Road Completed

The construction of the 5 km long and 30 metres wide road connecting Kabul-Qandahar Highway with Ghazni city has been completed and commissioned (*KNT*, 30 December).

USSR Funds

Competent Soviet bodies have said in an interview to the Soviet Press Agency Novesti, that the USSR pays funds for the upkeep of its contingent. As for the delivery of the Afghan Gas that's carried out under the bilateral agreement. The Soviet Union pays it in hard currency and at world price. Afghanistan allegedly pays the Soviet

Union for the presence of Soviet Military contingent with Natural Gas (Washington Times, 13 December).

Famine Situation

According to *BBC*, it is confirmed by the "Mujahideen" as well as by other Western sources that there is a possibility of scarcity of foodstuff in many parts of Afghanistan. There has been no indication of the supply of foodstuff by the Afghanistan government to the effected areas. Sources says that the crops in most of the areas and particularly the northern areas bordering the Soviet Union have been destroyed by indiscriminate Soviet bombing. The World Aid Agency is trying to provide more assistance to the effected people (*BBC*, 10 December).

Government bombing raids have created famine like conditions in Bamiyan province Highlands in Central Afghanistan. Mujahideen commander in Bamiyan province, Maulvi Abdul Qayyum Malang says many people may die of hunger because food supplies could not reach there (*VOA*, 12 December).

4 — YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CULTURE

AAWC Education Centre Opened

A women's cultural and education centre for cadres and activists of the All-Afghanistan Women's Council was inaugurated on 16 December 1986. 100 cadres and activists of the AAWC have enrolled in the centre (*KNT*, 17 December).

Academy of Sciences Reconstituted

The Academy of Sciences of the DRA, was established in 1978. The politburo of the PDPA CC, and the Council of Ministers have endorsed the appointment of a general body in the Academy of Sciences to strengthen the organisational structure of the Academy of Sciences and mobilization of scientific-technical fields for accomplishing revolutionary changes in the country (*KNT*, 8 December).

Focus on Youth's Role

Najib opened the 2nd nationwide session of the secretaries of the DYOA primary organisations in the army on 22 December. The groups of youth volunteers who have joined border forces, read out a message addressed to the session regarding the strengthening of border forces for defending the homeland, people and revolution (*KNT*, 23 December).

Cultural Festival

The State Committee for Culture has initiated cultural and publicity programmes to welcome the 22nd anniversary of the PDPA and the policy of national reconciliation (*KNT*, 30 December).

WFDY

The 12th Assembly of World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) has expressed support with the struggle of the youth of Afghanistan for defending the achievement of the April Revolution. The DYO A delegation to the assembly signed cooperation protocols with 10 organisations (*KNT*, 7 December).

Students Join Winter Cultural Centre

Over 22,000 boys and girls have joined the winter cultural centres in 1986. The centres have been set up on the invitation of DYO A, Kabul City Committee on 14 residential areas of the capital (*KNT*, 27 December).

Work Brigades in Production Institutions

The DYO A has introduced a 141 member work and construction brigades of young students to the Bagrami textile mill, marble and alabaster and milli bus enterprises to take part in raising production. Young brigade are reported to voluntarily take part in production and construction in factories and other institutions, during winters and autumn vacations (*KNT*, 13 December).

Students Work Brigades

Over 2,000 boys and girls were enrolled in student's work and construction brigades in eleven precincts of Kabul city and started their work in 34 institutions (*KNT*, 14 December).

Youth Join Armed Forces

As reported over 600 youth of Samkani district Paktia province, 54 from Laghman province, over 20 from Takhar province voluntarily joined the armed forces. The voluntary joining reported to be increasing after the convening of the 20th plenum (*KNT*, 3, 8, 25, 26 December).

Youth Join DYO A in Paktia

Over 630 youth are reported to have acquired membership of DYO A in Paktia province. At present some 1,120 youth are organised in one city and 5 district committees and 77 primary youth organisations (*KNT*, 8 December).

Paktia Youth Join Border Defence

Over 2,000 youth of Paktia province have joined the defence groups, border battalions and tribal regiments, in response to the call of the PDPA CC, to strengthen the Armed Forces (*KNT*, 17 December).

Literacy Service Expands

5 Public libraries have been opened in Shindad, Hazrat-e-Imam, Doshi and Jabul Saraj districts. About 16 public, children's and city libraries are presently functioning in Kabul city, Bagrami and Deh Sabz districts (*KNT*, 7 December).

Education

The Education Ministry of the DRA has carried out several measures to advance education and training of children and youth particularly in vocational and technical schools. *KNT* reports that as a result of the ministry's efforts, 17 new elementary schools were established and 68 ruined schools were rehabilitated in 1986. With the recruitment of 118,631 children in 1985-86 the number of school children now reaches 700,000. New schools were also constructed to expand education in the border provinces. The Ministry has added certain social and cultural activities to the curriculum to improve work in schools (*KNT*, 14 December).

Literacy Courses

There are now 982 literacy courses throughout the Herat province. 15 literacy courses in Parwan province, 13 in Faryab province were established recently (*KNT*, 3, 6, 24 December).

Herat DYOA Committee Reviews Activities

A reporting session of the activities of Herat provincial DYOA committee was held recently on the last two years activities of the committee and role of youth in realization of the demands of the 20th Plenum of the PDPA CC.

5 — NATIONALITIES POLICY

Tribes Ensure Security in Kunar

A tribal jirga of Kunar province is reported to have ensured the security of roads, schools, health centres and other public establishments, and are cooperating with the state in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of public establishments. The telephone lines between

Jalalabad and Asadabad cities (*KNT*, 1 December).

Tribal Welfare

The Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs has mobilized more than 21,000 people in border provinces and over 5,000 in other provinces to serve in regiments and tribal battalions during the current year (1986). The *KNT* analysis claim that over 1,000 tribal jirgas to date have been held under the Ministry. The Ministry called 'Ministry of Border' in the past and active only in East South and South-West areas of the country, has extended its range of activities throughout the country. Over 800 youth of various nationalities including Pash-toon, Tajik, Uzbek, Hazara, Turkman and Baluchis have been sent abroad for higher studies. The Ministry also publishes the Jirga Magazine to raise political knowledge of tribal nationalities, and gives detailed information on the party and government programmes (*KNT*, 28 December).

Consumer Goods Distributed — Free to Tribes

Consumer goods worth over 100 million Afghanis is being distributed free of cost to tribes and clans of the border province. To provide more facilities in the border provinces, particularly for tribals, retail stores have been established in Kunar, Ningarhar and Qandahar provinces, Khost division, Gardez city and Sayed Karem district of Paktia province (*KNT*, 18 December).

Jirgas held to Welcome the National Reconciliation Programme

The tribes of Sayed Khel and Dari Khel of Zardan, people's deputies of Central, Eastern and Western Nooristan, Elders of Ahmed-zai, Stanizai, Taghar, Noorjai, Dawalat-zai and Tara Khel nomads of Ningarhar, Loghman, Logar, Herat and Jauzjan provinces and people from Paktia and Paghman provinces held jirgas to welcome the call for National Reconciliation (*KNT*, 3, 13, 15, 24, 30 December).

Meetings — Najib Meets

Dr. Najib held meetings with the Elders, Chieftains and representatives of the people of Bamiyan, Parwan, Kapisa, Takhar and Ningarhar provinces. The elders expressed all round support to the policy of national reconciliation (*KNT*, 22, 24 December).

Returnees

As reported by the *KNT* 20 families in Sar-i-Pul district Jauzjan province, 32 persons in Ningarhar province, 40 families of Baluch-tribe of Herat province, 150 families in Barakzai region of Laghman pro-

vince and 84 families of Chas Bagh village of Laghman province returned to the DRA (*KNT*, 2, 9, 14, 18, 24, 29, 30 December).

Meeting with Ghazni Hindu, Sikh Residents

Haji Mohammad Samkani, acting president of the presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, met with the Hindu and Sikh residents of Ghazni province. The Hindu and Sikh national traders and capital holders pledged to take active part in the growth of the national economy of the country and welfare of the Afghan people (*KNT*, 22 December).

Women's Council Formed

A women's council of Tewda Mena was established on 29 December 1986, enrolling 400 housewives of the area. The council is affiliated to the All Afghanistan Women's Council (AAWC) (*KNT*, 30 December).

Religion — All Encouragement Given to Islam in DRA

Minister of Islamic Affairs of DRA Abdul Jamil Zarifi has stated that "the PDPA and the revolutionary state of the DRA sincerely respect and support the Holy Religion of Islam...the people of our country fully enjoy the freedom to perform all their religious rites and observe all religious traditions". He said in the 5 year socio-economic plan, it is proposed to establish well-equipped madrasas, increase the number of new enrolment in madrasas and Dar-ul-Hafez, apart from the completion of the Islamic Education Institute. The state expenditure on construction, repair and renovation of Mosques, Takias and Holy Places, construction to Ulema, Clergy, Imams and Qaris to 1250 million Afghanis between 1981-86. The budget of the Ministry in 1986 exceeds 384 million Afghanis (*KNT*, 7 December).

Reconciliation Efforts and Islam

"Reconciliation and consultation are two predominant principles of Islam for progress of country", says Moulvi Rahimuddin, a clergy of Parwan province. The policy of national reconciliation of the revolutionary government of DRA, is in full conformity with the principals of Islam, that is why the people of Afghanistan support it (*KNT*, 30 December).

Islamic Affairs in Herat

An amount of 17 million Afghanis have been spent in Herat, since the establishment of department of Islamic Affairs and Religious Trusts in Herat in 1982, on the construction and repair of Mosques, salary of Imams and assistance to Ulema and clergymen. About 310 Mosques are officially registered in the province (*KNT*, 8 December).

Herat Ulemas Council Meets

The 2nd conference of Herat Provincial Council of Ulemas and Clergymen was held recently in Herat city. The conference reviewed the work of the council of Ulema and Clergymen, since it's first conference. The "human policy" of the party and state was explained, that pay respect to Islam and guarantee the welfare of people and full freedom in performing religious rights (*KNT*, 20 December).

School for Learning Theology

Abu Hanifa High Madrasa was established and named as a theology school in 1944. Theology and it's branches like commentary on Quran, sayings of Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) and other subjects like Pushtu, Dari, Social Sciences, Sociology, Physical Education, Sciences and Mathematics are included in the curriculum of the Madrasa. 1,529 students have graduated from this Madrasa. At present it has a strength of 317 students and a staff of 21 teachers (*KNT*, 21 December).

Foundation Stone Laid

A foundation stone of Akhund Musa congregational Mosque was laid recently in Barikot sub-district of Shinwar division, Ningarhar province. A spokesman of the Islamic Affairs and Religious Trust of the province said that the Mosque will cost 8 million Afghanis and will accommodate 1,000 worshippers (*KNT*, 4 December).

Kabul Mosque

Over 2,500,000 Afghanis have been distributed to Imams of Mosques, for supply of fuel for Kabul city Mosques (*KNT*, 19 December).

Call by Jamiat-ul-Ulema

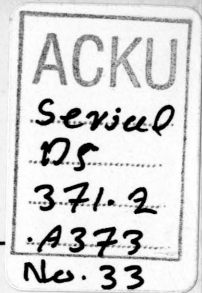
Jamiat-ul-Ulema of Momand Agency has issued a statement calling upon 'decived' Afghans to return home and resume their honourable and peaceful life (*KNT*, 7 December).

Sikh Temple Opened in Jalalabad

A second temple of the Sikh community was inaugurated recently in Jalalabad, Ningarhar province. The 3-storey building also include a school for the children and teenagers of the community (*KNT*, 6 December).

Education

Afghanistan has provided all facilities of higher education to the sons of Azad people of Pukhtoon Khawa and at present a large number of Pukhtoon Khawa students are receiving education in higher Educational Institutions of Afghanistan (Radio Kabul, 12 December).



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